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Soviet Union

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REGULAR SESSION OF DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE OPENS IN GENEVA

LD311842Y Moscow TASS in English 1830 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, January 31, TASS--A regular session of the Disarmament Committee opened in Geneva's Palace of Nations today. Taking part in it are representatives of thirty states.

The committee will discuss the most important problems of limiting the arms race and achieving disarmament. Reflected at the current session will be the proposals advanced by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, contributing to the solution of these pressing tasks. They touch on the simultaneous discontinuance of all states of the production of nuclear arms, on the conclusion of a treaty on the general and complete banning of nuclear weapon tests and mutual renunciation by states of the production of the neutron bomb.

Speaking at the opening of the session, the Soviet representative V. Likhachev stated that the Soviet Union moved to make a radical step and reach agreement on the gradual reduction of the already accumulated stockpiles of nuclear weapons till their complete liquidation.

He pointed to the great importance of the Soviet proposal to the Western powers to reach agreement on the mutual renunciation of the production of the neutron bomb, which would rid the world of this new mass annihilation weapon.

The Disarmament Committee, he stressed, cannot sidestep this important and pressing disarmament question. Implementation of all these new Soviet proposals would be an important stage on the way towards the restriction of the nuclear arms race and elimination of the nuclear war menace.

Touching on the practical tasks of priority significance, confronting the Disarmament Committee, the Soviet representative said that together with the solution of problems in the nuclear disarmament sphere it is necessary to speed up the elaboration of a convention "on the banning of the development, production and accumulation of stockpiles of chemical weapons and on their destruction," and also of an agreement to ban the development and production of new types of mass annihilation weapons and new systems of such arms. He went on record for the activation of the committee's work in the domain of demilitarization of the seabed, and also for the drafting of an all-embracing disarmament program.

SOVIET, WESTERN POSITIONS ON DISARMAMENT CONTRASTED

LD302201Y Moscow TASS in English 2139 GMT 30 Jan 78 LD

["A Constructive Approach Is Needed"--TASS headline]

[Text] Geneva, January 31, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Lopatin reports:

The Disarmament Committee opens a fresh session at the Palace of Nations in Geneva. It will examine such vital problems of our time as ending the nuclear arms race, banning chemical weapons, banning the development and manufacture of new kinds and systems of mass annihilation weapons, particularly radiological weapons.

This year the committee's sittings precede a special disarmament session of the U.N. General Assembly, which, in the view of the USSR and many other countries, must become the prologue to the convocation of a world disarmament conference. Disarmament negotiations are going on simultaneously in other international forums. In particular, Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks continue in Geneva. Again here, in Geneva, the USSR, the USA and the U.K. are looking for ways to conclude a treaty on the complete and universal banning of nuclear weapons tests.

As was stressed by the general secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev in his replies to a PRAVDA correspondent's questions, "The main thing now is to go over from negotiations about disarmament to real steps meaning the beginning of disarmament. This and this alone will really meet the aspirations of the peoples, who want lasting peace and firmly condemn actions directed at increasing the threat of a new world war, condemn the arms race."

In all these discussions of disarmament questions, the initiative of raising them comes mainly from the Soviet Union, which has set forth a whole number of suggestions directed at ending the manufacture and testing of nuclear weapons, at eliminating the entire material base of warfare. The USSR expects that its partners in the negotiations will also show a constructive approach, which would promote the speediest solution of these problems.

Unfortunately, the position of the Western powers in discussing these problems did not promote their early solution. Even today, though coming out in words for disarmament, the major capitalist countries continue to increase military spending. Thus, the USA approved the biggest military budget in the country's history: 118 billion dollars in the current fiscal year and 126 billion in the next. In Japan military allocations this year will top last year's by 12.4 percent, in the FRG--by 4.3 percent. The arms race is being intensified in the NATO military bloc.

This tendency is all the more dangerous to mankind that ever more savage means of warfare are making their appearance, such, for example, as the neutron bomb. Millions of people whose concern is shared by the Soviet Union rise in protest against its manufacture and deployment in Western Europe. The Soviet Union proposes to the Western powers to agree about a mutual renunciation of the neutron bomb so as to rid the world of this weapon of mass annihilation of mankind.

VIENNA TALKS RESUME, POLISH DELEGATE GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE

LD311956Y Moscow TASS in English 1935 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Vienna, January 31, TASS--Correspondent Igor Maslov reports: Talks on mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe were resumed at the Hofburg Palace here today after a recess. A plenary meeting of the 14th round was held in chamber. It was addressed by T. Strulak, the leader of the Polish delegation; and G. Cox, the leader of the Canadian delegation.

T. Strulak held a press conference devoted to the beginning of the new round of talks. He said that the socialist countries are resuming talks with the firm intention of reaching progress at them. He said they are ready to make a constructive contribution to solving the key questions discussed.

The fact that no concrete results have been reached so far in solving the problem of troop and arms reductions is due to the position adopted by the West which strives as before to secure unilateral military advantages at the expense of the socialist countries. The West, he said, has not responded positively to the proposal of the socialist states not to increase the numerical strength of the armed forces while the talks are in progress.

The leader of the Polish delegation stressed that the constructive initiatives of the socialist countries do not meet with due understanding on the part of the West. Moreover, attempts are being made lately to increase NATO's military potential and plans hatched to equip the Western armies with new types of nuclear weapons and means of delivering them, including the neutron bomb. This jeopardises the process of relaxation of international tension and hampers efforts to expand cooperation in Europe in accordance with the Helsinki final act. The socialist countries, being guided by the interests of peace and security of the peoples, fully support the Soviet Union's proposal for mutual refusal to manufacture the neutron bomb.

P. Strulak said that today's statement by the Western delegate did not contain any new point that could advance the Vienna talks. As before, the West tries to secure unilateral military advantages by upsetting the present approximate balance in respect of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. But this contradicts the aim of the talks which is to reduce the high concentration of armed forces and armaments in the centre of the European Continent without diminishing the security of any side. The next plenary meeting is to be held on February 9.

USSR CSCE ENVOY REBUFFS 'PROVOCATIVE ATTACK' BY U.S. DELEGATE

LD281605Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1238 GMT 28 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade--During the 10-day new year break the Belgrade participants have been meeting in editorial groups, doing constructive work in preparing a summing-up document. As already reported, the Soviet delegation has tabled a draft for such a document. However, it appears that the business-like progress of the meeting does not suit the U.S. delegation. At yesterday evening's meeting the U.S. delegation head again tried to worsen the situation, making slanderous attacks against the socialist countries.

The provocative attack by the U.S. representative received a rebuff from the delegations of the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, who showed specific examples of the mass violation of human rights in the United States and the hypocrisy of American speeches about "human rights."

While the U.S. delegation is making such demagogic statements in Belgrade, simultaneously asserting that it is interested in strengthening the atmosphere of trust, in the United States itself appeals are being made to increase the numbers of U.S. forces in Europe and to produce the neutron bomb and deploy it in Western Europe, said Yu. M. Vorontsov, head of the USSR delegation.

What talk can there be of mutual trust, of cooperation between East and West in deepening the relaxation of tension and in resolving the task of eliminating the nuclear menace, if one side banks on a new monstrous weapon which is aimed--and its creators do not conceal this--against the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries?

Drawing up plans to produce the neutron bomb and including it in the nuclear arsenal of the NATO countries in Western Europe, the USSR representative stressed, is a negative step. Arming with the neutron bomb cannot fail to worsen the situation in Europe, and cannot fail to make the difficult search for peace and cooperation on the European Continent.

U.S. TRYING TO CHANGE CHARACTER OF BELGRADE CSCE MEETING

LD312202Y Moscow in French to Europe 1800 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Viktor Shlenov commentary]

[Text] Since the new year break, the participants in the Belgrade meeting have been meeting for 2 weeks to put the finishing touches on the final document. It is known that the meeting should end in February with the adoption of a document evaluating this great and intensive work. The main objective of the Belgrade conference is to proceed to a profound exchange of opinion on the application of the clauses of the Helsinki final act and on the development of detente on the European Continent.

At the resumption of the Belgrade meeting after the new year's holiday interval, the Soviet delegation presented a draft of the final document. According to the Soviet Union, this document should reflect the results of the exchange of views and above all the proposals which have been agreed on by all states participating in the Belgrade meeting. The (?draft) also clarifies that there are proposals on which all 35 delegations cannot agree. Furthermore, there is a group of proposals which aim at revising the individual points of the [Helsinki] document. The opinion of the Soviet delegation in this respect is clear. The final act represents a long-term program of action by 35 countries taking part in the pan-European conference whose points have to be rigorously and fully applied and cannot be subject to revision or to [words indistinct]. The final document of the Belgrade meeting must not rival the decisions taken at Helsinki--decisions which showed Europe the road to peace and cooperation.

The representatives of some NATO countries, however, and especially the United States, are trying to change the character of the Belgrade meeting and transform it from a place of exchange of ideas into an arena of confrontation. To this end the U.S. representatives employed slanders about so-called human rights violations in the socialist states. The hypocrisy of the U S. position in Belgrade is obvious to all, our commentator states. If the United States is really so interested in the defense of human rights, why does it then violate these rights so crudely by unceremoniously intefering in the internal affairs of the European states, trying to tell them what government to choose? The American leaders are constantly saying that their campaign in the defense of human rights aims at consolidating peace and security throughout the world. If this is so it is legitimate to ask: Why does the United States go on increasing the strength of its armed forces in Europe? Why does it propose to stockpile cruise missiles and the neutron bomb in Western Europe? This can only intensify the situation and, in any case, cannot contribute to safeguarding the main human right--the right to live.

KORIONOV REVIEWS NEUTRON BOMB STRUGGLE, CARTER MESSAGE, BUDGET

LD311559Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 78 p 4 LD

[Vitaliy Korionov review: "The International Week"]

[Excerpt] Block the Path of the Neutron Bomb:

January has witnessed the launching of a powerful protest movement against the dangerous trend which has appeared in the policy of the NATO countries, above all the United States--the creation of increasingly barbaric means of warfare. This trend is most clearly expressed in the American military's efforts to introduce the neutron weapon into the NATO countries' arsenals.

The purpose of the Pentagon generals' efforts is to foist upon Western Europe a bomb which destroys people but does not destroy property. They know, of course, that those who seek peace resolutely reject the neutron bomb.

Therefore the apostles of the bomb are resorting to cynical tricks, depicting this sinister Pentagon invention as something approaching...an instrument for "preserving peace." The New York Times, for example, recently assured us, in all innocence: The neutron bomb is being created "not so much for conducting military actions as for keeping nuclear conflict at bay." This is roughly comparable to a situation in which people who wish to limit the danger of fire go about installing tanks of gasoline....

The people of the world generally acknowledge the USSR's clear, consistent position and its struggle against the creation and spread of the new weapon of mass destruction.

In response to a PRAVDA correspondent's questions, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said: "The Soviet Union is resolutely against the creation of the neutron bomb. We understand and wholly support the voice of millions of people in all parts of the world who are protesting against it. But if this bomb is created in the West--created against us, which is something nobody is even trying to hide--then the West must realize clearly that the USSR will not look on passively. We will be faced with the need to respond to this challenge to safeguard the security of the Soviet people, their allies and friends. Ultimately, all this will raise the arms race to an even more dangerous level....

"We don't want this to happen, and therefore we propose that an understanding be reached on the mutual renunciation of the production of the neutron bomb in order to save the world from this new weapon for the mass destruction of people. This is our sincere desire, this is our proposal to the Westen powers.

The task of halting the arms race, the production of all types of weapons of mass destruction and their elimination from arsenals remains the world's most significant political problem. And the Soviet Union is calling for the solution of this task. L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has submitted a proposal to the Western states on the mutual renunciation of the production of the neutron bomb. The adoption of this proposal would open up new and favrcable prospects for the preservation and strengthening of general peace.

L.I. Brezhnev's proposal said L. Knorr, member of the German Peace League directorate, is the only correct one. There is no acceptable alternative. There is still time to achieve a renunciation of the creation of this dangerous type of nuclear weapon and thereby prevent a new stage in the arms race.

The Pentagon's plan to begin production of the neutron weapon and deploy it in the European NATO countries is the biggest threat to peace at the current stage of international development. This is the view expressed by prominent scientists from 18 European countries at an international scientific symposium organized by the International Peace Institute in Vienna. The symposium welcomed L.I. Brezhnev's proposals aimed at halting the arms race.

There was a characteristic appeal in the United States from the "Union of Alarmed Scientists" which has 45,000 members. The appeal welcomes the new USSR peace initiatives and urges the U.S. President to contribute to the rapid achievement of an understanding on these problems. The aim of the action, physicist G. Kendall said, is to rebuff the attack on disarmament which has been launched in the spirit of the cold war. The appeal was signed by many prominent U.S. scientists and by such famous politicians and public figures as W. Fulbright, E. McCarthy, J. Galbraith and others.

Similar reports are coming in from all parts of the world.

The policymakers of world governments, above all the countries of Western Europe, are now faced with a very crucial decision. When making the decision they must heed the views of the people who say "no!" to the neutron bomb.

Peace-loving forces are struggling with ever growing determination to tip the scales in this battle--the battle for life--in the favor of the people.

Messages and Reality

In accordance with the American tradition, January was marked by a series of Presidential messages "on the State of the Union," tax reform, the draft budget for fiscal 1979 and a report on the state of the economy.

The President's speechwriters spared no efforts to present the fruits of the administration's 12-month effort in the most favorable light. "We are united again," the President said, "we have pointed the development of American foreign policy in a new direction."

However, one has to agree with those American press organs which point to the fact that these statements obviously clash with American reality. Moreover, the true state of affairs in the United States "peeps through" even the text of these messages.

"The administration," the "State of the Union" Message says, "cannot put an end to poverty, insure economic prosperity, reduce the inflation rate, save our cities, wipe out illiteracy, guarantee the country energy...." The economic report notes: "The level of unemployment among minorities is more than double the level of unemployment among whites, and unemployment among minority adolescents has reached a truly tragic scale. Women have fewer opportunities than men of finding satisfactory work, and more elderly Americans are finding the labor market closed to them. Farmers' incomes have fallen sharply."

Or look at the U.S. domestic political situation which some people across the ocean are trying hard to embellish and pass off as a "model of democracy." For example, the admission contained in the "State of the Union" Message: "For some citizens life in our country has become like living in a foreign country where the authorities are so strange and distant that we often have to deal with them through special intermediaries who are, at times, too powerful and influential: lawyers, accountants and lobbyists."

Commentators were naturally very interested in the foreign policy section of the "State of the Union" Message. The President talks about "a desire for peace everywhere." He states the need "not merely to contain but to reduce the competition in the area of numbers of strategic arms" and announced that "we are seeking to conclude agreements with the Soviet Union on arms limitation." These statements can only be welcomed. As is known, the Soviet side is abundantly ready to bring these talks to a successful conclusion.

However, the Washington administration's declaration clearly contradicts its course, particularly toward increasing military appropriations. In order to justify them, the White House reiterates the totally unfounded assertions of "continuing Soviet military efforts."

The White House draft budget for fiscal 1979 proposes an increase of 9.4 percent in military allocations over 1978 ($128.4 billion). "Too much money is being allocated to the Pentagon and appropriations for creating jobs are inadequate," House Speaker T. O'Neill remarked in this connection.

However, even these appropriations are apparently "not enough" for the Pentagon. The latter's appetite is indicated by the fact that U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown called the American military budget for 1979..."meager."

The "State of the Union" Message states: "We have decided to reduce the sale of our weapons abroad, doing it stage by stage, year by year." But this was contradicted by a UPI Washington report which said that according to the Pentagon's outlines, the overall volume of weapons sales to foreign states "will increase this year by approximately $2 billion."

As for the White House proposals on tax reform, Senate Finance Committee member W. Roth assessed the underlying approach to these proposals as: "promising a tax cut with one hand and stealing from the taxpayer's wallet with the other hand by imposing new taxes." Even the New York TIMES, describing the administration's "timid attempts" to reorganize the tax system, writes that they "are only a faint shadow of the far-reaching changes which Carter once promised."

In a stubborn struggle the way is being cleared for the trend toward relaxation of international tension. But however much resistance its enemies offer this process will continue. The Soviet Union is doing all it can to insure that developments continue in this direction.

LUNS, KARAMANLIS DISCUSS GREECE'S RETURN TO NATO MILITARY

LD310022Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 30 Jan 78 LD

[Station commentary]

[Text] Greek Prime Minister Karamanlis, who is touring a number of West European countries, has visited Brussels, where he has met and had talks with NATO Secretary General Luns. According to Luns, the main topic at the meeting was the possible return of Greece to the military organization of the North Atlantic bloc. According to Luns, the head of the Greek Government has promised a positive solution to this question under certain conditions. Although Luns was brief, our observer notes that his statement in many respects clarifies Athens' position on Greek participation in NATO.

First of all, it is apparent that the present Greek Government has no intention of a total break with NATO. On contrary, it is preparing ground for the return of Greece to the military organization which it left in 1974. At that time, under the pressure of the masses, the Karamanlis Cabinet decided to stop military cooperation with NATO. This decision met with wide support from left forces and the entire democratic public of Greece. Since then, the movement for the entire withdrawal of Greece from the North Atlantic bloc has been gaining strength. This was confirmed by the results of the last parliamentary elections in which the government party of Greece and all Greek socialist movements, which decisively oppose membership in NATO, considerably increased their representation in Parliament, having collected more than a third of the votes. However the government ignores the will of the people and in fact it rejects the course declared earlier. It is striving to bring Greece back into the military [word indistinct] of NATO. With this aim, Athens is conducting behind-the-scenes talks with the NATO leaders who are extremely concerned by the gap in the southeastern flank of NATO.

The Karamanlis government is trying to hide its contacts with the NATO leadership from the public because it knows that this will evoke sharply negative reactions in the country. As they say: The truth will come out. The real aims of the government are becoming more and more apparent. They evoke a natural protest from the majority of Greeks who want their country to be genuinely independent and to carry out a policy of peace and good-neighborliness. It is quite clear that the plan to return Greece to the military system of NATO does not correspond to the wishes of the Greek people.

NATO TROOPS PREPARE FOR WINTER MANEUVERS IN NORWAY

LD311620Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1337 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Brussels--NATO headquarters reports that from 14 February to 14 March 1978 NATO winter maneuvers, codenamed Arctic Express, will take place in northern Norway. Troops from Canada, the FRG, Italy, Holland, Britain, the United States and Norway totalling 15,300 men will participate in them.

The main aims of the maneuvers are to improve winter combat readiness training procedures and troop transport to northern Norway, the perfection of headquarter and command performance in winter conditions and the control and coordination of units of various nationalities.

It is also reported here that after the Arctic Express maneuvers, headquarters [shtabnye] exercises will take place in the Tromsoe area with the participation of troops from Canada, the United States and Norway.

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TO UN CONDEMN SOUTH AFRICA

LD010842Y Moscow TASS in English 0834 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 1, TASS--The world community condemns the policy of wholesale reprisals conducted by the South African racialist regime with regard to the native majority population.

This is reflected in the draft resolutions submitted to the United Nations Security Council discussing the question of South Africa. In one of the draft resolutions, the world community demands that the South African racialist regime should immediately stop wholesale violence and reprisals against the black population, release all political prisoners, give up the policy of apartheid and ensure a majority rule in the country on the basis of justice and equality.

Another resolution emphasises the need of the speediest introduction of economic sanctions against the Republic of South Africa and an end to the granting of loans and credits to the racialist regime.

BRITISH, CIA HIT FOR USING JOURNALISTS IN INTELLIGENCE WORK

ID311528Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1100 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The big press in the West likes to call itself free; objectivity and truth--so it says, are most important of all. The press is independent and of course it is not influenced by any selfish antisocial interests whether those of the monopolies or the states.

But these claims do not fit the facts. There are forces operating in the West's free press that specialize in disinformation and slander, political and ideological intrigues, subversive activities and espionage.

Some time ago it was learned that the British Foreign Office had highly secret departments dealing with information research. Its job is to arrange with the national press political and ideological subversion against the socialist and developing countries. The department also finances subversive activities in the trade unions and the labor party. Its consultative services were used by more than 100 journalists from all the leading Fleet Street papers, including THE TIMES, OBSERVER and THE ECONOMIST. The department conducted its secret propaganda activities together with the United States Central Intelligence Agency. The facts about the department's collaboration with the British press threatens to explode into a major political scandal.

But would it be the first of its kind? You will remember the exposures in the United States about the CIA's wide use of American and foreign journalists for espionage and subversive activities against other countries. It was established, for instance, that the CIA used for its own purposes dozens of newspapers and magazines. More than 400 American newsmen carried out CIA assignments. They collected secret information, established and maintained ties with secret agents. With the help of planted stories, they launched propaganda campaigns that could influence political processes and public opinion in various countries in favor of the United States. Italy, France, (?Chile), Spain and Portugal have all in turn been targets of such campaigns. As for the newsmen they worked under the cover of such top publications as the New York TIMES, the Washington POST, TIME and NEWSWEEK magazines, the UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL and the ASSOCIATED PRESS news agencies. [words indistinct] was recently exposed as having ties with the CIA. When asked bluntly [words indistinct] planted lies of the CIA, he replied cynically; nothing is impossible.

Moral ethics don't come into it. As a senior CIA official put it, the time will come when we shall again recruit newsmen. I can see that many of them are right for such jobs.

U.S. PEACE LEADERS SEE POSITIVE RESULTS FROM WPC VISIT

LD311144Y Moscow TASS in English 1122 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Washington, January 31, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Levchenko reports:

Representatives of the progressive U.S. organisations. which participated in the discussions of the issues of disarmament and detente with members of the Bureau of the World Peace Council Presidium believe that the exchange of views held will contribute towards invigoration of the peace movement in the USA.

This meeting is of genuinely historic significance, as it was the first ever session in the United States of the Bureau of the World Peace Council Presidium, a TASS correspondent was told by coordinator of the Committee for Disarmament and Detente, Chairman of the Paul Robeson Friendship Society Josephine Butler. It is necessary that all the Americans realise that there is no alternative to peace and detente apart from the nuclear holocaust. We will make every effort so that a powerful movement for peace in the United States should become a reality.

Nowadays struggle is widening in all countries against the production of the neutron bomb, but it is the Americans themselves who must in the first place struggle against it, said Executive Director of the National Council of U.S.-Soviet Friendship Richard Morford. They must make the government and Congress give up forever the plans for its creation.

An overwhelming majority of the Americans want peace, said one of the leaders of the Women for Racial and Economic Equality organisation Susan Sepeda. But it is the "silent majority", to be more precise the majority which is deprived of the possibility to declare their views for everybody to hear. Our organisation views the struggle for peace as a component part of the struggle for racial and economic equality. We demand that the government appropriate substantial funds for improving the education system, through a cut in the excessive military budget.

SFRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL OUTLINES NEUTRON BOMB STAND

LD271516Y Moscow TASS in English 1351 GMT 27 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade, January 27 TASS--At a press conference here an official spokesman of Yugoslavia's Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs outlined Yugoslavia's position on the proposal made by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev to renounce the manufacture of the neutron bomb, a new weapon of mass extermination. Together with other non-aligned countries, he said, Yugoslavia constantly comes out for ending the arms race, especially the nuclear arms race, for beginning the process of true disarmament. In the light of this, Yugoslavia has always voted in the United Nations for resolutions on the prohibition of the production of new types of weapons of mass annihiliation and new systems of such weapons. The Yugoslav Government welcomes all efforts in this direction.

At the press conference the spokesman of the Federal Secretariat also said that preparations were now under way for President Tito's visit to the United States.

WORLD SCIENTISTS AT VIENNA MEETING ISSUE DISARMAMENT STATEMENT

LD302100Y Moscow TASS in English 2018 GMT 30 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Vienna, January 30 TASS--The participants in the international symposium of scientists on "ways to reach a universal prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types and systems of mass destruction weapons" sponsored by the International Peace Institute and held in Vienna, appealed to the states participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe to support the proposal on concluding an agreement not to be the first to use nuclear weapons agaonst one another. This proposal, if implemented, stresses the symposium in a statement, would provide greater security not only for Europe. A commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons against one another would mean implementation of the main human right--the right to live.

The statement urges the need to back up political detente by measures in the military field. Europe does not need new weapons systems. The nations do not need a neutron bomb which would entail a new round of the arms race. What they need is a new round of successful talks aimed at strengthening security and peace.

The appeal is addressed also to the participants of the forthcoming special disarmament session of the U.N. General Assembly, the disarmament committee in Geneva and the participants in the Vienna talks on mutual force reductions in central Europe.

The vice president of the International Peace Institute, G. Kade of West Germany, told a press conference that the institute at its general meeting unanimously adopted a resolution in connection with the U.S. intended production of the neutron bomb. Taking into account numerous statements by the institute's members from various countries of the East and West, and in particular, the participants in the recent international symposium in Vienna, says the resolution, we vigorously condemn the plans to manufacture neutron weapons and deploy them in Europe. In the interests of universal peace, international security and progress towards disarmament it is necessary to reject this new inhuman mass destruction weapon.

UNITED STATES

U.S. SINCERITY DOUBTED DUE TO 'POLICY CONTRADICTIONS'

LD3114457 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 26 Jan 78 p 3 LD

[NOVOSTI political observer V. Yermakov article: "An Urgent Necessity"]

[Text] I recently returned from the Belgrade meeting. It is impossible to give a simple evaluation of what was happening in the Palace of Congresses in the Yugoslav capital.

But however much the positions of this or that delegation in Belgrade diverged, they coincided in one of their viewpoints: I am referring to the universal recognition of the positive role played by the Helsinki accords in significantly easing tension and in creating conditions of peaceful coexistence between states with different socio-political systems.

In the United States those who take the decisions are obliged (like it or not) not only to suffer the doctrine of peaceful coexistence but to reckon with it as a determining element in international life. "The epoch of the 'Pax Americana' has ended," Richard Barnett, an employee of Harvard University, writes. "The United States is no longer able to play the role of manager of the world, as it did when Europe and Japan, weakened by war, were much more complaisant under the influence exerted on them by America and when the Soviet Union, although already a giant, was still clearly weaker."

Indeed, that epoch has sunk into oblivion, sunk beyond return. The correlation of forces in the world arena has changed in such a way that the United States is no longer objectively in a position to try to impose its will and its dominion on other peoples. In the sixties Soviet sputniks and rockets dealt an irreparable blow to American illusions of constant industrial, military and technical superiority over our country. The grave defeat in the Vietnam war dispelled another illusion which had taken root in Washington--that in our time political resolutions can be sought by military means. In fact "everything is permitted to the strong" was a poor consolation for the Pentagon generals.

A perfectly natural question arises: Have the present U.S. ruling circles drawn a sufficient lesson from the failure of the former myths on which their foreign policy and military strategy were based for so many years?

Judging from the speeches of American politicians, they have learned these lessons.

And indeed U.S. representatives are sitting around the table at the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of strategic offensive arms, participating in the tripartite meeting with the USSR and Britain, where the problem of ending nuclear tests is being discussed, and are taking part in discussions with the Soviet Union on the question of reducing military activity in the Indian Ocean. All these talks, without doubt, are of very great significance for the strengthening of security and for military detente.

The trouble is, however, that in Washington they prefer to hide behind a wall of words--even if they are filled with optimism, they are still only words.

In any case, we come across an obvious difference between oral statements and a number of concrete actions by the United States that are heading in the opposite direction. Any, even the shortest, step toward an agreement with the Soviet Union is invariably taken with the sound of military drums of Capitol hawks, and it angers the military-industrial complex. "The United States has always set the pace of the arms race," the New York TIMES wrote recently. "Now the United States and several of the Americans' European allies are in real terms spending more on defense that they spent 2 or 3 years ago," UPI reported from NATO's Brussels headquarters.

Of course, expenditures of the United States' European partners in NATO are somewhat more modest. However, even thse have grown in a year, as was stated at the December session of the Atlantic Council, by $4 billion. In the words of an AP correspondent, the Americans demanded new increases "although a weakening of tension is observed in relations with the Soviet Union." In 1978 alone European NATO member countries must supplement their arsenals with 12,222 units of heavy arms: tanks, missiles, military ships, aircraft and so forth. Many press organs assert that after the conclusion of the Belgrade meeting a final decision will be made on the deployment of American neutron weapons in Western Europe.

Whether this will in fact be so or, as often happens, whether the newspapers have outrun events, only time will tell. Only one thing is now perfectly obvious--the contradictions in the West's policy, primarily that of the United States, have turned out to be so deep that the very sincerity of American intentions may be justifiably doubed. Does the United States want to take the path of military detente or the course which is influenced by various forces but nevertheless based as before on the belief that only military might is the main factor of politics and that only the threat of its application can alter the barometer of the political climate toward the American side? There is no doubt that the United States is aware of what a nuclear war could cost mankind. But at the same time the White House is instructing the Pentagon to reexamine the "emergency plans" in the event of nuclear war. The Pentagon will be engaged inconnection with this in determining the targets of nuclear strikes, calculating the quantity of nuclear weapons necessary for these strikes....

In the international arena an extremely contradictory and difficult situation is taking shape. Whipping up the arms race is an extremely dangerous tendency for mankind. It becomes even more dangerous because even more barbaric means of waging war are appearing. Then is the arms race inexorable, like fate, and inevitable, like the passage of time? Of course not. It can and must be stopped. This is one of mankind's historic tasks. Our motherland is doing everything possible to resolve it. The Soviet Union has submitted more than 100 proposals regarding military detente to one degree or another since World War II. Practically all talks connected with the reduction and limitation of arms and armed forces now being conducted were started, to a considerable degree, on the initiative of the Soviet state. We have proposed renouncing first use of nuclear weapons, not extending military blocs and in the long term disbanding them, not creating new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction and limiting and stopping the nuclear arms race, stopping all nuclear tests even for peaceful means, and we propose adopting a mutual pledge to refrain from the production of neutron bombs and many, many other things. [paragraph continues]

In putting forward these proposals we believed and firmly believe that they can be implemented. This is not blind faith but a sober evaluation of existing realities.

Of course, we are aware how thorny the path is to military detente, and how difficult it is to achieve rapid success on this path. "The main thing now," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has said, "is to move from talks on disarmament to real steps signifying the beginning of disarmament. This, and only this, can really answer the aspiration of peoples, who want lasting peace and decisively condemn actions directed toward increasing the threat of a new world war, who condemn the arms race."

Mankind is tired of sitting on mountains of weapons. It must be given the opportunity to cross the threshold of the next century in conditions of peace, a peace more reliable than ever in the past. The Soviet Union will do everything in its power to bring this about.

BROWN DIRECTIVES FOR U.S. FORCES CALLED 'SINISTER'

LD311726Y Moscow TASS in English 1658 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

["The Pentagon's 'Emergency Commands'"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 31 TASS--The newspaper IZVESTIYA describes as "sinister designs" the directives handed down by the U.S. defence secretary, Brown, to the commanders of the three arms.

"The directives, writes the paper's commentator, envisage concrete measures to improve the various types of weapons for each arm of the service. The emphasis in the Pentagon's plans is obviously on mass annihilation weapons."

"The development of new versions of long-range missiles, the building of atomic submarines, the creation of new types of nuclear warheads, etc. is prescribed.

"No less sinister are the plans to create so-called 'shock groups.' They are to comprise army divisions and Marine units which could be taken by air or sea to any part of the world. It follows clearly from the defence secretary's directives that they are slated for the role of 'fire teams' or 'police forces' capable of going into action promptly wherever a 'threat' arises, in Pentagon's opinion, to the interests of the USA or its allies in military blocs."

"The directives bristle with fantastic fabrications about an alleged 'Eastern threat' and hypocritical lamentations over an alleged 'U.S. lag' in the armaments field, the commentator goes on to write. These fabrications and lamentations would hardly mislead anyone, however.

"The revealed plans of the U.S. military department are obviously at odds with Washington's declared intention to reduce rivalry in the field of the quantity of strategic armaments, and it is quite obvious that the plans of the Pentagon's strategists run counter to the demands of the world public opinion which comes out resolutely for curbing the arms race and eliminating the threat of nuclear conflict."

SENATE COMMITTEE APPROVES U.S.-PANAMA TREATIES

LD311612Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0945 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Washington--TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Yegorov reports:

The USA's Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday approved by 14 votes to one the U.S.-Panama treaties on the new status and neutrality of the Panama Canal and submitted it to the Senate for ratification.

However, the committee proposed that amendments be introduced into the treaties to guarantee the U.S. right to "defend" the canal unilaterally and also give U.S. warships extraordinary rights of passage through the canal "in conditions of emergency."

This decision of the committee, which was agreed upon by leaders of the Democratic and Republican factions of the Senate, represents capitulation to the rightwing forces that recently started an active propaganda campaign against ratification of agreements signed by President Carter and Omar Torrijos, the head of Government of Panama, last September. The adjustments introduced in the agreements in fact give the United States rights in perpetuity to interfere in the internal affairs of Panama. This is interpreted here as a warning to other Latin American countries about the intention of Washington to interfere also in their internal affairs, if the interests of the United States require this in a given area.

It is expected that the Senate debate on ratification will begin in the first 10 days of February, while the vote is expected at the end of February or the beginning of March. For ratification, 67 of the 100 votes are needed.

MATERIAL ON PONOMAREV DELEGATION'S ACTIVITIES

Los Angeles, Little Rock Meetings

LD301750Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 30 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, which is touring the country at the invitation of the U.S. Congress, is currently in Los Angeles, California. Our special correspondents Yuriy Soltan and Igor Charikov report from Los Angeles:

The Soviet delegation has spent an interesting day, full of meetings, in this industrial city of the American West. The inhabitants of Los Angeles and representatives of the city authorities, business circles and the public have given a warm welcome to the guests from the USSR. Warmheartedness of ordinary Americans and great interest in the Soviet country were evident everywhere, in all the towns visited by the Soviet parliamentarians. In Little Rock, Arkansas, William Alexander, member of the House of Representatives from that state, spoke of the need for and the importance of Soviet-U.S. cooperation and the development of relations in all spheres.

In Los Angeles, at a meeting between the Soviet delegation and representatives of U.S. business circles, the desire to expand trade and economic ties between the USSR and the United States, and to eliminate artificial barriers on that path was expressed. This was stressed in particular by (Ted Thornton), head of the large Litton Industries industrial corporation.

Giving his impressions of the visit of the delegation to the United States, Comrade Ponomarev, head of the delegation, noted the aspiration of Americans to know more about our country, to live in peace and develop cooperation.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, Comrade Ponomarev stressed, its policy regarding the United States remains consistent and invariable. The Soviet Union, as previously, is prepared for expansion of bilateral ties in all spheres on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual respect and noninterference in internal affairs. We, Comrade Ponomarev said, have come to the United States on a good will mission, and we think the meetings and talks in Washington and other cities visited by the delegation are helping mutual understanding between our peoples. The more often we meet and talk, the better we shall know each other and the better relations between our peoples will be.

Talks With Governor; Detroit Arrival

LD311250Y Moscow TASS in English 1154 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Los Angeles, January 31, TASS--A meeting has been held here between a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, led by Boris Ponomarev, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and California's governor, Edmund Brown.

Some questions of Soviet-American relations and a number of international problems were discussed. Upon completion of the talk E. Brown made a statement, declaring for an all-round development of the policy of detente in the relations between the USSR and the United States. He emphasized that this policy creates a favourable atmosphere for expansion of mutually-beneficial Soviet-American trade--economic cooperation--which is very important for the United States. The Soviet Union, the governor said, is a highly developed industrial country with a vast potential.

In Los Angeles the Soviet guests met and conversed with representatives of the business circles, public, workers in culture and art. They familiarized themselves with one of the Hollywood's biggest film-studios, "Universal".

A reception was arranged on behalf of the U.S. Congress in honour of the Soviet delegation. Boris Ponomarev and Congressman Mark Hannaford exchanged toasts.

Detroit, January 31, TASS--From Los Angeles the delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet arrived in Detroit. There they had a meeting with representatives of the city authorities, the public and business circles of Detroit, centre of the American car industry.

The Soviet guests were welcomed by Charles Diggs, member of the House of Representatives. He noted great significance of the exchage of delegations between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the U.S. Congress for improving mutual understanding and consolidating peace. Direct contacts and a frank exchange of opinions, he said, promote the quest for ways of solution of complex international issues.

Speaking on behalf of the Soviet delegation, Boris Ponomarev conveyed greetings and the best of wishes to all autobuilders and workers of the city. He emphasised that the main task in the development of Soviet-American relations was to ensure peace and security to the peoples of both countries. The Soviet Union is exerting vigorous efforts to translate this lofty goal into life.

The USSR, the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, he went on to say, attach great significance to further development of Soviet-American relations, on the improvement of which depends consolidation of peace and security throughout the world.

The USSR firmly pursues the course of further improvement of these relations. This has been stated with all firmness and certainty by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, who said "life itself requires that determinant in Soviet-American relations should be durable considerations, prompted by concern for peace. We abide by this line and expect to be reciprocated by the same. We are not lacking readiness to continue developing the relations with the United States on the basis of equality and mutual respect."

In the evening of January 31 the delegation familiarized themselves with the auto-assembly works of the Ford Motor Company.

POLICY ON U.S. ARMS SALES 'MORE SMOKE THAN SUBSTANCE'

LD311148Y Moscow TASS in English 1126 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Washington, January 31, TASS--"The President's arms sales restraint policy right now is more smoke than substance, more exemptions than rules, more sales than reductions". A statement to this effect was made by Senate Banking Committee chairman on Monday after committee hearing on the activity of the government's federal financing bank, which provides foreign countries with credit to buy American arms.

As an official spokesman for the Pentagon said the other day, the USA is to supply abroad in the current fiscal year various arms worth a record sum of 13,200 million dollars, almost 2,000 million dollars more than in the last fiscal year. But as a matter of fact, this figure is even greater, as the Pentagon data do not take into account arms supplies to NATO allies and Israel, which are on a special register in Washington. Tel Aviv alone is known to receive from the USA annually arms and material worth 1,000 million dollars, a considerable part of it free. As the U.S. and other Western press noted more than once, among the recipients of the arms carrying the "made in the USA" trade mark are also the world's most repressive regimes.

'PRESSURE' FROM U.S. TO RETAIN PHILIPPINES BASES REPORTED

LD311410Y Moscow TASS in English 1322 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

["Serious Apprehensions"--TASS headline]

[Text] Singapore, January 31, TASS--The United States is exerting an ever stronger pressure upon the Philippines to prevent that country from lessening its dependence on the "senior partner", writes the newspaper Philippines daily EXPRESS. Its editorial article points out that invigorated activities of the Central Intelligence Agency are a cause of particularly serious apprehensions of the Philippine public. The Central Intelligence Agency, the newspaper points out, not only collects espionage information but directly interferes into other countries' internal affairs in the interests of the United States.

In the Philippines, the article runs, the Central Intelligence Agency is carrying out a policy of strong pressure upon the ruling circles so as to prevent adoption of decisions which accord with the national interests but which run counter to U.S. intentions. This refers to all spheres of life--economy, internal and foreign policy, press, social sphere.

Thus, on connection with the negotiations that began at the Philippines' initiative, on revision of the inequitable agreement on American military bases, the Central Intelligence Agency is expanding its operations in that country in order to make the Philippine side waive its just demands. If the Philippines gains the right of control over the U.S. military installations on its territory, the CIA's positions will be largely undermined, the newspaper writes. The CIA now uses numerous installations and bases as springboards for operations in the area of Southeast Asia.

RADIOS 'FREE EUROPE,' 'LIBERTY' TO 'STEP UP ACTIVITIES'

LD301816Y Moscow TASS in English 1746 GMT 30 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Washington, January 30 TASS--TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Yegorov reports:

The subversive radio stations "Liberty" and "Free Europe", operating at CIA bidding, intend to step up their propaganda warfare against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in Europe, despite the fact that their subversive activities are in crying contradiction with the spirit and letter of the Helsinki accords, which proscribe interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

The decision to step up the activities of the radio gangsters becomes clear from the annual report, published here, of the nominal owner of the radio stations--the International Radio Broadcasting Council. The past year was an "important" one for the "Liberty" and "Free Europe" radio stations, the report points out. The U.S. administration passed a decision on the substantial expansion of the stations' activities.

In the current fiscal year 73 million dollars was allocated for the needs of the "Liberty" and "Free Europe" radio stations, while for the next fiscal year 79 million dollars has been requested. The authors of the report maintain, however, that this is too little, and that the radio stations' needs are seriously underestimated.

The report points out that late in 1976 and early in 1977 six new transmitters were put in operation. Under its expansion programme the building of another 11 transmitters is envisaged by the poisoners of the air.

The report further make it clear that the "Liberty" and "Free Europe" radio stations are a veritable spying and propaganda combine. They broadcast for a total of 980 hours a week in 22 languages, and the staff numbers 1800 people. The materials of the so-called research service, specialising in mis-information, plays a great role in the preparation of broadcasts.

CHINA

SAIFUDIN REMOVED FROM POSTS IN SINKIANG-UIGHUR REGION

LD3119?0Y Moscow TASS in English 1846 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

["The Purge Continues"]

[Text] New York, January 31 TASS--American news agencies citing local Chinese radio stations report the removal of Saifudin who is a Uighur by nationality, from the post of first secretary of the Committee of the Communist Party of China in the Sinkiang-Uighur Autonomous Region and from the posts of chairman of the Revolutionary Committee of the Sinkiang-Uighur Autonomous Region and first political commissar of the Sinkiang Military District.

Following his removal from all the posts he earlier held in the Sinkiang-Uighur Autonomous Region, observers believe, Saifudin will be removed or has been removed from the posts of alternate member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the CPC and deputy chairman of the standing committee of the National People's Congress. This is the most highly-placed member of the new Chinese leadership created after the death of Mao Tse-tung and the arrest of his wife Chiang-Ching and three of her associates, subjected to repressions in the course of a wide-scale purge now in progress in China.

Saifudin has been succeeded in his posts in the Sinkiang-Uighur Autonomous Region by Wang Feng.

ARMY PURGE REFLECTS POWER STRUGGLE IN PRC LEADERSHIP

OW311418Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1100 GMT 29 Jan 78 OW

[Text] A few days ago, LIBERATION ARMY DAILY carried an editorial which was reprinted by PEOPLE'S DAILY. On this, station observer Lazhin writes:

In the past 15 months, LIBERATION ARMY DAILY has actually become China's No 1 paper. The people are used to seeing important instructive articles carried in LIBERATION ARMY DAILY and reprinted by PEOPLE'S DAILY. Many people feel that LIBERATION ARMY DAILY is controlled by Teng Hsiao-ping, chief of the PLA General Staff, and his comrade-in-arms Wei Kuo-ching, director of the General Political Department. But they could not tell who is in charge of the PEOPLE'S DAILY editorial department and why PEOPLE'S DAILY, the CCP Central Committee's organ, has not been publishing important articles first.

The Western media has repeatedly noted that it was the military which helped Hua Kuo-feng rise to power and smash the gang of four. This probably explains the CCP Central Committee chairman's unusual attitude toward the aggressiveness of LIBERATION ARMY DAILY and his respect for the military. It seems that the Chinese military leaders do not fear him and that there are no serious problems in the Chinese Army, unlike the troublesome militia. But the LIBERATION ARMY DAILY article on grasping the key link and running the army well dispelled such wishful thinking. The Chinese Army will surely eradicate the various kinds of commanders and staffs depicted by LIBERATION ARMY DAILY as the "wind" faction, meaning those who have sneaked into the army for opportunistic purposes, the "slippery" faction and so on. Recently, Chinese media clamored that the "slippery" faction committed serious crimes and were unrepentant.

The other question which has been repeatedly discussed in our commentaries concerns the Peking regime's suppression of people who dislike and are dissatisfied with it under the pretext of struggling against the gang of four's followers. LIBERATION ARMY DAILY admitted this and said that those who were connected with the gang of four and those who were politically unreliable should not be permitted to assume leading posts. The article went on to list the accusations usually trumped up against cadres. The LIBERATION ARMY DAILY article shows that the clean-up movement in the Chinese Army is going full steam ahead.

We believe that a large number of military cadres are being arrested. Many of them implemented Mao Tse-tung's instructions during the Cultural Revolution and were favored by him and his trusted followers. They are the ones who are now accused of being the "slippery" faction. When Mao Tse-tung was alive, these people enjoyed many privileges and held power in revolutionary committees and the PLA units stationed in the provinces. Alien elements as well as opponents of the antipopular military bureaucratic regime are also being suppressed.

We know that servicemen make up a large proportion of China's party and state organs. Their loyalty remains questionable and many of them have been relieved of their posts in provincial revolutionary committees. There is a real power struggle between the military and civilians in Peking's leading body, which is largely the result of the crisis in September 1971 when Lin Piao, Huang Yung-sheng and other military leaders were relieved of their posts in the Politburo. Li Te-sheng, Chen Hsi-lien and Hsu Shih-yu have been in danger on many occasions. It is reported that Yeh Chien-ying's position is also unstable and that at the Fifth National People's Congress he will not retain the crucial post of defense minister. The ever-sharpening power struggle within the leading body will probably lead to the postponement of the National People's Congress.

We know that the distribution of higher posts is no simple matter. The rivalry among the bosses living in Chungnanhai have existed since the Cultural Revolution. This shows that the Peking leaders cannot and will not solve the problems related to the Chinese workers' personal interests. The list of Politburo and government officials always changes but not the workers' poverty and hunger.

ANTI-SOVIET PRC SPEECHES, ARTICLES THREATEN PEACE

LD271519Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jan 78 p 5 LD

[Article by Mikhail Georgiyev: "Provocateurs Unmasked"]

[Text] The successes of the peace policy are no consolation to those who support the fueling of hatred between peoples and want the world to live in an atmosphere of fear, military confrontation and constant expectation of nuclear disaster. They include the leaders of China.

At the 11th CCP Congress last August Hua Kuo-feng called the Soviet Union China's chief enemy and called for a struggle "to the last" against the first country of socialism. During the period since the 11th CCP Congress the Chinese leaders have been attacking the USSR's peace-loving foreign policy with increasing ferocity. They have proclaimed the creation of a "united fromt of struggle" against the Soviet Union as their general line in foreign policy.

A few days ago PEOPLES' DAILY published an article urging the populations of the West European countries, Canada, Japan, Australia and New Zealand to oppose the USSR in a "third world war."

This article is yet another sign to the imperialist forces that they can count on China in the struggle against the world of socialism, against the Soviet Union.

The Peking propagandists are trying to frighten the West European countries by saying that they could be "the first to be attacked by the Soviet Union" and must therefore unite. Not only unite among themselves but with the United States as well.

As PRC Deputy Foreign Minister Yu Chan said in an interview in the Spanish paper EL PAIS, "an alliance between Europe and the United States is an objective necessity."

The Peking provocateurs would like to see the working people in this bloc too. "If war breaks out," the PEOPLES' DAILY lecture goes, "the proletariat of these countries absolutely must, in the interests of the world, be in the front ranks" of the struggle against the USSR.

What kind of world do the champions of a "crusade" against the Soviet Union have in mind? The one which Mao Tse-tung once talked about when he was dreaming of creating a new civilization according to his own recipe on the debris of a world nuclear catastrophe?

In Peking the other day, PRC State Council Deputy Premier Teng Hsiao-ping, who has embarked with such zeal on building up China's military might, once again preached "the inevitability of a new world war," opposed the relaxation of tension and urged the Western states to accelerate the arms race and strengthen the "NATO bloc." Teng Hsiao-ping's statement about the creation of a "united front" against the USSR can only be described as a provocative trick by someone who has lost touch with today's realities.

The anti-Soviet speeches by Chinese leaders and articles in the press, all directed against international peace, indicate that Peking has embarked on the path of further exacerbation of tension, the path of provoking military adventures.

KOSYGIN SEES JAROSZEWICZ OFF FOR POLAND AT AIRPORT

LD311829Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Comrade Jaroszewicz left Moscow for home today. He was seen off at the airport by Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and other officials.

Talks End

LD312331Y Warsaw PAP in English 1807 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Warsaw, 31 Jan PAP--Today, Poland's Premier Piotr Jaroszewicz and Soviet Premier Aleksy Kosygin continued their talks in the Kremlin.

On the same day in the evening, Premier Jaroszewicz ended his two-day working visit to the Soviet Union. Piotr Jaroszewicz and his party were seen off to the Moscow Airport by Aleksy Kosygin, Vice-Premier N. Baybakov and other Soviet personalities, as well as Poland's Charge D'affaires to the Soviet Union Jerzy Szyszk.

APRO ATTENDS KREMLIN LUNCHEON, SPEAKS ON COOPERATION

LD301536Y Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 30 Jan 78 LD

[Excerpt] The Hungarian delegation led by Antal Apro met with deputies of the Soviet legislature and leaders of the two houses of the Supreme Soviet today. They discussed the activities of the legislative bodies and cooperation between the Soviet and Hungarian parliaments.

Following an exchange of views, the chairman of the two houses of the Supreme Soviet gave a lunch in the Kremlin in honor of the Hungarian National Assembly delegation. Wide-ranging cooperation with the Soviet Union is an important element and an active instrument in the development of the Hungarian people's economy and the work of socialist construction going on in our country, said Antal Apro at the reception given by the chairman of the two chambers of the Supreme Soviet in honor of the Hungarian parliamentary delegation. Apro went on to speak about foreign policy cooperation between the two countries, about the fact that this foreign policy is aimed at strengthening the socialist community, uniting the progressive forces of the world and consolidating world peace.

At the end of his speech, Antal Apro recalled that the 30th anniversary of the Hungarian-Soviet friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance treaty is approaching. This agreement was an important step in cooperation between the two countries.

More on Speech

LD301902Y Budapest MTI in English 1704 GMT 30 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Budapest, 30 Jan, MTI--MTI correspondent Csaba Kis reports from Moscow:

We have already reported briefly that the chairmen of the two chambers of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union have given a lunch in honour of the Hungarian parliamentary delegation. The guests were greeted by Aleksey Shitikov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union.

In his answer Antal Apro said among others:

"I am pleased by the fact that the friendly relations of our countries, parties, governments, parliaments and peoples have been gaining in content in all fields. We are convinced that the personal contacts, the becoming more familiar with each other's work, the mutual information on the life of our countries [and] our peoples will further fortify and broaden our relations. The friendship of our parties, governments and peoples is strong and indissoluble. Unbroken development characterizes all fields of our relations. The bilateral wide-ranging cooperation is an important factor and effective means of the development of the Hungarian people's economy.

"The listing of the fields of cooperation would not be full if I did not stress the cooperation in foreign affairs of our parties and governments. The Hungarian foreign policy pursues closely-connected aims: It devotedly works on the strengthening of the socialist community, the unity of the world's progressive forces and the strengthening of world peace. I am pleased to state that the two countries take joint action for the solution of the important questions of our age. The Hungarian Government supports the Soviet Union's proposals and efforts of major significance which are aimed at strengthening peace among the nations, promoting detente and broadening cooperation among the states. Together with the USSR we resolutely take a stand against the increasing activity of the anti-detente forces. Concluding his speech Antal Apro stressed: The visit by the delegation of the Hungarian parliament, just like the regular contacts between leaders of the two countries, are important contributions to the many-sided promotion of Hungarian-Soviet relations."

Statement on Visit

LD302248Y Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 30 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The delegation of the Hungarian National Assembly has ended its visit to the USSR. Antal Apro, leader of the MSZMP delegation, gave a statement to our correspondent in Moscow, Elemer Csak: [Apro--recorded] We had the opportunity to conduct a wide-ranging exchange of views about issues concerning cooperation between the two countries. We received detailed reports about results which the fraternal people have achieved in fulfilling the resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress and about which we can only speak with admiration.

We discussed the activities of our parliaments, their international contacts and our efforts toward consolidating peace and deepening detente. We know that the Soviet Union is playing the greatest role in this struggle. With all our strength and means we are continuing to struggle with the fraternal Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist community to realize the policy of peace.

We had an exchange of views about topical international issues and can state that our stance on them is completely unanimous.

Summing up our experiences, I can say that this 1-week visit was very useful to all of us. We can go home with a wealth of experiences. Our discussions contributed to further strengthening the indissoluble Hungarian-Soviet friendship and to enriching the content of our coopeation. [end recording]

GRISHIN SPEAKS AT BERLIN 'MOSCOW DAYS' RALLY

LD3121327 Moscow TASS in English 2112 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Berlin, January 31 TASS--The German Democratic Republic has gained wide recognition and well-earned international authority, said Viktor Grishin. He was addressing a mass public rally at Republic Palace in the GDR Capital, Berlin. The rally developed into a moving demonstration of the unbreakable friendship between the people of Moscow and Berlin, the peoples of the USSR and the GDR. The event opens Moscow Days in Berlin.

The successes of world socialism and its growing appeal to the working peole in all countries, said Viktor Grishin, worry the forces of imperialism and reaction. Our ideological adversaries are going out of their way to impede the efforts of the peoples of the socialist community to build a new life and strengthen peace and security. Their main concern is to weaken the international class solidarity, the cohesion and unity of the fraternal countries and parties. To this end they have recourse to lies and vicious slander calling hypocritically for "improving" and "renewing" socialism, cooking up fabrications about human rights violations in the socialist countries. The imperialists seek to make active use of cultural and other links in their struggle against socialism.

The foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet Government, stressed the head of the Moscow delegation, is aimed at translating into life the programme of further struggle for peace and international cooperation, for the freedom and independence of the peoples adopted by the 25th Congress of the CPSU. It serves the steady strengthening of the positions of world socialism.

The fraternal friendship between the peoples of the USSR and the GDR is an important factor towards reaching the noble international goals of the socialist community.

The fraternal union which has taken shape between the USSR and the GDR on the basis of socialist internationalism and comradely mutual help and sealed by the treaty of October 7, 1975, is strengthening and developing, said Viktor Grishin. The all-round cooperation between our countries is gaining ever greater scope. There is practically no social or political sphere or branch of the economy in which the Soviet Union and the GDR do not exchange experience, share the achievements of science and production and socialist culture.

Konrad Naumann, member of the Politbureau of the CC SUPG, first secretary of the Berlin District Committee of the SUPG who addressed the rally stressed that Moscow Days in Berlin would open a new chapter in the history of the friendly relations between the two fraternal capitals.

GDR Coverage

For GDR media reportage on the Berlin visit of Viktor Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, see the German Democratic Republic section of the 31 January Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

BERLINGUER REPORT SAYS DC POSITION MEANS EARLY ELECTIONS

LD311443Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 78 p 4 LD

[Correspondent report: "For a Positive Solution"]

[Text] Rome, 27 January--The Italian Communist Party [PCI] Central Committee plenum which opened yesterday with a report by PCI Secretary General E. Berlinguer is continuing its work in Rome.

Commentators note the firmness with which the report confirms the PCI's position on creating a government of national unity, including representatives of all democratic, antifascist forces. The present situation, the PCI secretary general stressed, requires the creation of a government of national unity, which the Republicans and Socialists are also advocating.

Berlinguer noted that the Christian Democratic Party [DC] while verbally agreeing with the need to cooperate with other political parties is, however, limiting this cooperation to a certain "improvement" in the six-party program agreement reached earlier, and is continuing to insist not only on eliminating Communists from government participation but also on excluding them from the government majority in Parliament. Calling this position "absurd and unacceptable," the PCI secretary general said that objectively it entails the dissolution of Parliament and early elections which would drag out the solution of the urgent problems facing Italy. If the DC insists on deadlock, the PCI secretary general stated, it seems right for us to advance the idea of creating a government made up of representatives of parties which have demanded changes in the country's political leadership. Such a government would rely on a program coordinated among all parties, including the PCI. So far this is "not yet an offer but a suggestion."

Turning to international problems, Berlinguer stated that Italy must pursue a policy aimed at implementing all the provisions of the Helsinki conference, must promote a just and peaceful solution of conflicts--particularly in the Near East and the Horn of Africa--and must support detente. The report condemns the arms race and particularly the plans to create the neutron bomb. The report expresses again a resolute protest against inadmissible foreign interference in the country's internal affairs.

ITALY'S THRIVING ARMS INDUSTRY SELLS TO WORLD 'HOT POINTS'

LD311150Y Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Rome, January 31, TASS--TASS correspondent Valeriy Ageyev writes:

Trials of a new Italian armoured carrier of an increased cross-country capacity are underway in the centre of the Nevada desert in the United States. Its manufacturer is "Lamborghini" firm. According to the Italian press, American military experts study a possibility of purchasing this new type of military equipment.

The armaments industry is the only thriving industry in Italy. In the past ten years profits of Italian "death merchants" went up by more than 300 percent. In 1976 Italian firms sold a total of 600,000 million lire worth of arms to foreign buyers, the weekly L'EUROPEO writes. This is a 200,000 million lire rise over the previous year. More than 170 companies in Italy now supply arms abroad.

The sale of Italian arms to "hot points" of the planet, specifically, the Middle East, sparks a particular indignation of the democratic public of the country. The press repeatedly carried reports that armaments with the label "made in Italy" are used by the racist regimes of the Republic of South Africa and Rhodesia in the struggle against the national-liberation movements. The Pretoria regime purchases Italian-made missiles, designed for warships, artillery guns and small arms, the POLITICA INTERNAZIONALE writes.

NOVOYE VREMYA RESPONDS TO CRITICS OF MANUEL AZCARATE ARTICLE

ID011116Y Moscow TASS in English 1107 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 1, TASS--Follows the full text of the article "Why This Distortion of the Truth? Concerning Some Comments on the NEW TIMES [NOVOYE VREMYA] Article About Manuel Azcarate's Public Pronouncements" from the 6th issue of the NEW TIMES WEEKLY:

The article by B. Andreyev in our issue No 3 concerning some pronouncements by Manuel Azcarate, a leading functionary of the Communist Party of Spain, has evoked a good deal of comment. Much of it, at any rate most of what has appeared in the West, however, creates a rather curious impression.

Many of the commentaries on the NEW TIMES article are such as to cause one to doubt that their authors ever read what Andreyev actually wrote. For as a rule they deal not with what the article said but with contentions arbitrarily ascribed to it: A few examples will bear this out.

First, most of the comments published--and this applies to some Spanish press organs, for instance, the INFORMACIONES, to the U.S. New York TIMES and others--allege that NEW TIMES sharply criticized (some even say attacked) "the views of the Spanish Communists," "the policy of the Communist Party of Spain," and so on. However, no one who has read the NEW TIMES article can have failed to note that it does not contain a single word about the policy of the Communist Party of Spain or the Spanish Communists' views.

The Soviet communists hold, and always have held, that the policy of every party is its own concern, and that no one is entitled to interfere in it. This is common knowledge. The Communist Party of the Soviet Union, standing in firm solidarity with its fellow communists, socialists, the workers and all other sections of the working people of Spain, supports, and always has supported, the struggle waged by Spain's communists to strengthen and broaden democracy and to create the conditions for the struggle for socialism. And there is no one in the Soviet Union who would question this solidarity with the communists of Spain.

The NEW TIMES article, it must be stressed once again, dealt not with the views and policy of the Communist Party of Spain, but with opinions voiced personally by Manuel Azcarate in public statements on concrete questions, namely, on Marxism-Leninism, the value and significance of which he denies, and on the Soviet Union, which he says "is not really a socialist state." It is this that NEW TIMES challenged.

Some of the commentators accuse Andreyev of attaching labels. Manuel Azcarate himself speaks of "ananthema" and "ex-communication." This is clearly sensationalizing. The Andreyev article was a defence of the Marxist-Leninist teaching and existing socialism, a statement of facts refuting Azcarate's contentions and nothing else.

Indeed, ever since the emergence of Marxism-Leninism the bourgeoisie has wanted nothing more than to "disprove" it, to demonstrate that it either never was consonant with the imperatives of the times or, if it once had a real significance, has since grown obsolete. This is a standard imperialist propaganda thesis. And Manuel Azcarate repeats it. When we say this we are simply stating a fact, noting that Azcarate has adopted a position long held by the enemies of Marxism, communism and the working class.

Throughout the sixty years of the existence of the Soviet Union bourgeois propaganda has maintained that the socialism our people have built is "not socialism at all," or at any rate not the socialism the founders of socialist thought envisioned. Denigration of socialism primarily in the USSR has been the main object of that propaganda. Now it has been joined by Azcarate. To state this is not a matter of labels or anathemas, but simply of putting the fact on record.

Second, a number of commentaries published in the bourgois press insinuate that NEW TIMES voiced disagreement with the policy of the communist parties of Western Europe in general, that the article about Azcarate's pronouncements was a condemnation of those West European parties which are descoribed as "Eurocommunist" (LA REPUBBLICA and some other Italian papers).

What has already been said above will suffice to make it clear that this too is a downright falsification.

Some of the Western commentaries also hint that the NEW TIMES article was allegedly directed against the quests for new ways to socialism, new forms of struggle for socialism, on which West European communists have embarked. Regrettably, some of the press organs of fraternal parties too have reacted hastily to the article and interpreted it as an encroachment on the right of each party to work out its policy, tactics and strategy independently. An attentive reading of the article will leave not the slightes doubt that such reproaches are totally unwarranted.

Life itself has posted before the communists of the capitalist countries new problems, and it is this that has prompted them to perfect their strategy and tactics. The attitude of the CPSU to this was officially set forth by Leonid Brezhnev in his report "The Great October Revolution and Mankind's Progress." The theoretical guidelines of the fraternal parties, he said, contain interesting points, though probably not everything here should be regarded as finalized and indisputable. This is understandable: A quest is a quest. The important thing is that it should proceed in the right direction.

"Whatever routes are chosen, the ultimate mission of the communists is to lead the masses to the principal goal, to socialism."

On behalf of our party, Leonid Brezhnev wished the communist and workers' parties and their allies fighting against the dictatorship of capital, for freedom, peace and social progress, every success and assured them that they can always depend on our friendship and solidarity.

The attempts to make it appear as if the Communist Party of the Soviet Union were opposed to creative quests, to the elaboration of new theoretical and political problems, are all the more groundless for the fact that it was precisely the CPSU that first put forward many of the topical ideas now in the focus of creative revolutionary thought.

In this connection mention might be made of the decision of our party congresses from the 20th to the 25th, the elaboration by our party of the problems of developed socialism, its analysis of the crisis of present-day capitalism, its contribution to the assessment of the significance and consequences of the change in the balance of class forces in the world arena and the charting of the avenues of struggle for peace and socialism in the new situation.

"Theoretical work is a major element of our common internationalist, revolutionary duty," Leonid Brezhnev has said. "Repetition of old formulas where they have become outworn and an inability or reluctance to adopt a new apprcach to new problems harm the cause."

Such is the stand our party really takes on this question.

Third, some commentaries, for instance, that of the Italian LA STAMPA, allege that NEW TIMES sought to shield from criticism the "Soviet model of socialism obligatory for all." Others have gone even father, trotting out the old fable of the "Soviet model" being forced upon other parties. The sole purpose of the Andreyev article was to nail the slanderous assertions of Azcarate, who contends that there is no real socialism in the Soviet Union.

CPSU General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev said in his report on November 2 last year that it is because the imperialists would very much like to undermine the unity of the communist ranks that "the falsehood is persistently being spread that the communist parties in the socialist countries--and, especially, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union--are imposing upon the communists in the West their own prescriptions for the socialist transformation of society. But this is an obvious fabrication.

"Our party, like all the other Marxist-Leninist parties, firmly adheres to the principles generally accepted in the communist movement: equality, independence, non-interference in internal affairs, solidarity and mutual support among the communists of different countries."

This makes the position of the CPSU perfectly clear.

As mentioned above, reading the comment of the Western press one gets the impression that the commentators simply have not read the NEW TIMES article. It is quite possible of course that a few journalists in the various countries might indeed not have read it. What is noteworthy, however, is that the bourgeois press comment strikes the same note everywhere, irrespective of the country of origin. Perhaps the only difference to be detected is that whereas LA STAMPA, for instance, tries to make it appear as if the Andreyev article were directed against the Italian Communist Party, the French press sees the French Communist Party as the target, and the American press, all West European communists. Surely there are far too many coincidences here for all this to be regarded merely as a matter of chance.

In conclusion let us repeat: The purpose of the article published in NEW TIMES No 3 was exactly the same as the purpose of the present item--to make it clear that the communists of the Soviet Union consider it their duty to uphold Marxism-Leninism, to underscore once again the correctness of this teaching and its inestimable value for the cause of socialism and peace and to defend the socialist system that has become the reality.

BONN TO SPEND NEARLY ONE-THIRD OF ITS BUDGET ON DEFENSE

LD010830Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Jan 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[N. Polyanov commentary: "Against the Current"]

[Text] The road to hell is paved with good intentions. This old truth--as old as the world--is now being recalled by West Germans as they familiarize themselves with their country's record defense budget for 1978. Only a few days ago authoritative statements resounded in the Bundestag to the effect that the FRG intends to continue the policy of detente. These statements met with understanding and support throughout Europe. And suddenly a sharp dissonance: The same Bundestag ratifies the Defense Ministry's request for the astronomic sum of DM35 billion.

The debate on the defense budget included the inevitable sharp clashes between the ruling coalition and the opposition. Newspaper commentators are writing about "the most dramatic Bundestag session in the past three decades." However, the reasons for the discord do not relate to the military appropriations but to another bugging scandal which had broken out deep within Bonn departments.

It seems that Minister Leber's explanations for the defense appropriations suited the opposition perfectly. Last year, the minister specified, the NATO leadership demanded that the Atlantic partners raise military spending by 3 percent a year. And now Bonn, he said, has decided to move to the "front" by increasing spending 4.5 percent. As a result the Bundeswehr is being equipped with "new generations of weapons," and the NATO command is "very pleased" with its West German partner.

I should think so too! None of the NATO states, with the exception of the United States, spends as much on the arms race as the FRG. Experts attest, for example, that the Tornado aircraft and the Leopard-2 tank, with which the Bundeswehr is being armed, rank among the "world champions" in terms of their cost.

But even this is not everything. In addition to the DM35 billion in declared defense appropriations, the federal budget conceals many undeclared billions. Evey according to NATO criteria "all expenditure meeting the requirements of the armed forces" is included in defense spending. In all, this sum is in excess of DM54 billion.

The total federal budget is more than DM180 billion. It turns out that Bonn is spending almost one-third of it on "defending itself." One wonders: against whom? An intelligible answer to this was not given in the Bundestag. They preferred to remain silent...

ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE OPENS IN ALGIERS

LD311720Y Moscow TASS in English 1708 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Algiers, January 31 TASS--The conference of the foreign ministers of Arab states, which are coming out against the separatist negotiations of President as-Sadat with Israel, opened in the capital of Algeria today. Taking part in it are the foreign ministers of Algeria, Syria, Libya, Democratic Yemen, and also a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The main purpose of the conference is to prepare a summit meeting of these states and the PLO. The meeting is scheduled to open early this February.

The local press notes that the summit meeting will consider ways for the practical implementation of the decisions passed by the Tripoli meeting, which strongly condemned last December as-Sadat's anti-Arab steps and confirmed the need of intensifying the struggle for a genuinely just solution of the Middle Eastern problem.

The Foreign Minister of Syria 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who has arrived here, stressed in a press statement that the conference in Algeria would be an important positive factor in counteracting As-Sadat's capitulatory plans.

Abu Mayzar, member of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, said, in turn, that the calling of the conference confirmed the resolution of its participants to continue the struggle against the attempts to impose upon the Arabs a "settlement" in the Middle East contradicting completely their interests andignoring the lawful rights of the Palestine Arab people.

The first plenary meeting considered various aspects of the situation in the Middle East, and also the agenda of the forthcoming summit meeting. As it was announced at the press conference held after the meeting, complete identity of views was recorded on all the questions discussed.

AS-SADAT U.S. VISIT INTENSIFIES PRESSURE ON EGYPT

LD311918Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Arabic to the Arab World 1630 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Egyptian President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat intends to go to the United States for talks on the Middle East. Observers in Cairo point out that the trip is at the initiativ of Washington due to insoluble difficulties which arose during the Egyptian-Israel talks. Thus, the fact of As-Sadat's visit to Washington is tantamount to an admission that the same old acute questions in the Middle East persist. Only the conditions of solving them have become more complicated.

Very recently As-Sadat, while embarking on unilateral contacts with Israel, declared that he was demolishing psychological barriers in the Middle East. This, so he alleged, would solve questions all at once. The Arabs would at long last regain their usurped land and Palestinians would have their own state. As for Israel, she would obtain a secure existence. In his interview with the American NBC television, the Egyptian president said: All this will require no more than 6-8 weeks to achieve.

Of course nothing of the sort has been achieved, because it is impossible to solve, bilaterally, the complicated questions which involve the vital interests of many of the states involved in the Middle East conflict. The 10 weeks so far of feverish bilateral activities on various levels confirm this.

The lesson in the separate Egyptian-Israeli talks shows that the victim of aggression rather than the aggressor has to make the concession. While the Israeli attitude hardens on the question of territories and especially the Sinai, As-Sadat made a concession when he admitted the possibility of amending 1967 borders. Nor did As-Sadat secure Israel's agreement to a just solution to the Palestinian question in spite of the fact that he made this a basic Egyptian requirement.

As-Sadat fully accepted Israel's attitude concerning the nature of peace between Israel and the Arab countries by agreeing to the establishment of diplomatic, economic, trade, commercial and other kinds of relations which go so far as to permit opening borders. This has been the principal demand of Israel, which in this way hopes to open the doors of the Arab countries to imperialist penetration.

Has the Egyptian president secured anything from the aggressors and their protectors in return for the positions he has handed over? The Washington POST, replying, said that As-Sadat has recognized Israel without obtaining in return any conditions for peace, except those which had been known before his Jerusalem visit.

In such circumstances the invitation to As-Sadat for consultations in the United States, which stands on the side of the aggressor, appears as an intensification of the pressure upon Cairo to force it to sign a separate agreement with Israel on American-Israeli terms.

U.S. Policy

LD311525Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jan 78 p 3 LD

[TASS report: "A Deal Is Being Prepared"]

[Text] Washington, 28 January--The United States is actively striving for the conclusion of a separate deal between Egypt and Israel. As the Washington POST reports, U.S. President J. Carter has invited Egyptian President as-Sadat to visit Washington early in February to discuss the question of "speeding up the Egyptian-Israeli talks." Shortly afterward Israeli Prime Minister Begin will visit Washington. The newspaper indicates that in the next few days it is expected that the Israeli Cabinet will adopt a resolution on resuming the work of the Israeli-Egyptian military committee in Cairo. In the opinion of Z. Brzezinski, the U.S. President's national security adviser, the resumption of the Egyptian-Israeli military talks will be followed by a resumption of the political talks. Both As-Sadat and Begin, he said in a radio interview broadcast yesterday, have linked their personal prestige with them. "Hopes are growing," the newspaper writes, "that Egypt and Israel, as a result of U.S. mediation, will soon be able to reach an agreement on the general principles of a settlement."

Atherton, assistant to the U.S. secretary of state on Near Eastern affairs, after talks with Begin, arrived today in Amman for a meeting with King Husayn. The press notes that drawing Jordan into the separate Israeli-Egyptian talks is now the main aim of American diplomacy in the Near East, inasmuch as only the participation of Jordan, in Washington's opinion, could improve the position of As-Sadat, who has turned out to be completely isolated in the Arab world.

'Quiet Diplomacy'

LD312320Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Following an exchange of terse statements, Egypt and Israel, with U.S. mediation, have agreed to resume separate talks. The Israeli defense minister has arrived in Cairo to continue talks. Our correspondent Sergey Krylov reports from the Egyptian capital:

According to Israel and the United States, the Egyptian president has begun well, having embarked on a course of separate deals with the aggressor, but Israel remains Israel. Its leaders, as events have shown, did not even consider either a withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied since 1967, nor moreover, the recognition of the legal rights of the Palestinian peoples. Here the United States took up the matter and Washington set in motion the tested, experienced machinery of diplomacy of gradual steps. At the moment it is being called "quiet diplomacy." Its aim, stresses the Arab press, which is recognized by Egypt to have the right to speak on its behalf, was to wrest Egypt out of the common Arab front in the struggle for the liquidation of the consequences of Israeli aggression. This aim has been attained and now Washington is acting more confidently than 2 or 3 years ago.

In the Arab world the recent visit by the president of the World Bank for reconstruction and development, McNamara, to Cairo was evaluated as the first step within the framework of "quiet diplomacy." Having acquainted himself with the state of Egyptian economy and finances, McNamara, at his final press conference wished that Egypt would carry on pursuing further, as he expressed himself, its successful course. Then and only then can Egypt count on financial aid from the West, for the planned deficit of the Egyptian budget for 1978 is the equivalent of 2 billion Egyptian pounds, and for the time being is not underwritten by foreign loans. So Egypt approached the United States with a request for it to supply aviation technology. It follows then that levers of pressure on Egypt do exist, and President as-Sadat received an invitation to come to Washington for a discussion of the situation in the Near East and the possibilities for a resumption of the Egyptian-Israeli seperate talks.

In Israel meanwhile an announcement was made concerning the decision to strengthen the Sinai defense line and to create a number of additional militarized settlements. As regards Egyptian appeals to the United States to exert pressure on Israel, Prime Minister Begin reacted to them completely calmly. "We," he stated in an interview to the political correspondent of Israeli radio, "are mobilizing all our friends in America to forestall plans which are dangerous to Israeli security." The representative of the White House, Powell, hastened to confirm that the United States will not do anything which could threaten this security.

MIDEAST PROBLEMS, ISRAELI, U.S., SOVIET POLICY REVIEWED

LD3111447Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 78 p 4 LD

[M. Tumanov article: "The Near East: A Game Without Prospects"]

[Text] The situation in the Near East, dangerous to the cause of peace, has for many years now been reminiscent of a constantly bleeding wound. And the policy of Israeli ruling circles, supported by influential forces of imperialism and Zionism, is above all to blame for this.

If you assess the situation from a broad historical perspective, it is not difficult to conclude that current Israeli leaders are rendering their own people poor service in occupying a senseless position based on plans for expansion in respect to neighboring countries. Much combustible material has been accumulated in the Near East, and if a new military flare-up takes place, nobody can predict its end. All the same, Israeli figures cannot rise above their egotistical aspirations, discard illusion and open their eyes to processes taking place in the world.

Analyzing events in the Near East, it is impossible not to notice that the plans of imperialism, Israeli leaders and certain Arab regimes, in spite of their differences, contain identical attitudes toward the Soviet Union. They are trying to destroy Arab friendship with the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community and to leave the Arab peoples without their natural allies in the struggle for political and economic independence.

Sometimes voices are heard in the reactionary press on the possibility of undermining, or even completely eliminating, the Soviet Union's Near East influence. But only politically shortsighted people can reason thus. Who in our time does not know that the Soviet Union's role in the world is determined by its very existence and might? It is given to nobody to undermine this role, or, still less, to eliminate it, either in this or in any other part of the world. The Arab peoples and states, irrespective of sociopolitical regime, are aware (this can be judged from the statements of the press and political figures) that it would be a historical mistake not to acknowledge the immense role of the Soviet Union for their own destiny and for the defense and further consolidation of the freedom and independence they have achieved in the difficult struggle against colonialism and imperialism.

Of course--and historical experience testifies to this--there are temporary setbacks in the national liberation struggle, but upsurges and the general movement forward always come to the fore. Speaking at a meeting in Beirut, Y. 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO] Executive Committee, stated: "We may retreat and even be in a state of seige, but we will never capitulate. Nobody can destory the Palestinian revolution. It will go on to victory."

Let us recall that in order to weaken the struggle of the Arab peoples to eliminate the results of Israeli aggression and for a just peace in the Near East, the path of so-called partial solutions and separate deals was chosen. Creating the illusion of movement, it in fact represents nothing but running in place. Relying on such tactics, Israel makes verbal statements about withdrawing from the occupied Arab lands, but in practice stays there.

As for the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine, they simply tried to drown this question in words. In this respect U.S. President J. Carter's statement at a press conference held after his recent foreign tour is significant. "I tried," President Carter said, "wherever I went, to stress the concepts of morality, dignity, goodness, friendship and human rights." And then he continued: "I have never thought, and do not now think, that for us, for the Near Eastern countries, and for the whole world, it is expedient to have an independent Palestinian state." Note that the U.S. President assumes the responsibility of expressing himself not only on his own behalf, but on behalf of the "Near Eastern countries" and even of "the whole world." But how can there be any serious question of personal human rights when the rights of a whole people are being trampled in the mud?

While people in the United States and Egypt are still trying somehow to conceal with diplomatic ambiguity the question of denying the Palestinians their lawful right to have their own state, by manipulating such words as "territorial formation," "self-determination," and the possibility of the Palestinians' participation "in determining their future," Israeli Prime Minister Begin is not bothering with any such play on words. "Let us not beat about the bush," he stated. "The term 'self-determination' means the formation of a Palestinian state, and we will not agree to that...."

That is how things stand with Palestinian rights. The same picture is forming with regard to the fight of the Egyptian people to regain lands occupied by Israel. When it came to practical Egyptian-Israeli talks on Sinai, the Egyptians were shown this clearly and unambiguously.

Firstly, Israel in essence took the line that Egypt must renounce its commitments on joint defense within the framework of the Arab League and must remain neutral in the event of conflicts arising between Israel and other Arab countries. Secondly, Israel surrounded the withdrawal of its troops from Sinai with conditions which in essence reduce Egypt's sovereignty over Sinai to nothing. As soon as President as-Sadat mentioned that he would not permit "one Israeli soldier or civilian to remain on Egyptian soil," Begin flagrantly rebuffed him. And so that President as-Sadat should have no doubt on this score, Begin stated: "I know that a comparatively long transition period is before us. But the Israeli settlements will remain in place after that transition period and even for future generations.

Israel's tough position has not changed even when Egyptian-Israeli talks reached an impasse. Begin again stated in the Knesset Israel's refusal to return to the lines existing before the June 1967 war. He stressed that Israel would never give up its Sinai settlements, which will stay under the protection of its armed forces, and that the Israeli leadership will never agree to creation of a Palestinian state and PLO recognition and that "Jerusalem will remain united and will always remain the capital of the Jewish people." Begin stated directly in an interview with the French weekly LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR that if the Egyptian Government saw the Israeli position in another light, then it "was supporting a kind of illusion, a dream." Commenting on these utterances the Egyptian newspaper AL-AKHBAR writes that recent events attest that the Israeli leaders cannot rid themselves of their aggression and continue to live with dreams of "the Promised Land" and of "a great Israel."

To what, then, are the Israeli hawks and their patrons bringing matters at the present stage?

First of all they would like to resume Egyptian-Israeli talks as quickly as possible and to implicate in them the other immediate participants of the Arab-Israeli conflict, primarily Jordan and Syria. Much has been and is being done for this. The appropriate high-level messages have been and are being sent. U.S. President J. Carter even altered his recent trip around the countries of Europe and Asia and held additional meetings with President as-Sadat and King Husayn of Jordan. But despite persistent efforts, and sometimes even direct pressure, no one wants to join the Egyptian-Israeli talks. K. Waldheim, UN secretary general, has also refused to take part in them.

However, the supporters of this separatist venture are not placated. Judging by everything, their aim is now to "milk" President as-Sadat, who finds himself in a difficult situation, by any means and to sign the so-called "declaration of principles"--a kind of "model" for a Near East settlement which suits Israel and its patrons--with Egypt. For the rest they have in mind simply to impose this "model." As far as the fate of the Palestinians is concerned, as the Egyptian newspaper AL-AHRAM wrote, U.S. Secretary of State Vance "will play an important role in working out a formula for Palestinian self-government which would satisfy the Arab side as well as being a way out for Begin." No one is prepared to ask the Palestinians themselves their opinion on this.

The negative attitude of the majority of Arab countries to the Egyptian-Israeli talks is indicative of the distribution of forces in the Near East on the principle question of a settlement. The leading figures of the Arab world are aware that in comparison with the situation created immediately after the publication of the joint Soviet-American statement on the Near East on 1 October 1977, when real hope for achieving a comprehensive settlement within the framework of the Geneva conference appeared, the situation has grown considerably more complex. But they are in no way preparing to put down their weapons and to settle for separate Israeli-Egyptian talks, causing serious harm to the achievement of a just settlement in the Near East and to the vital interests of the Arab peoples. "I consider," President H. Al-Asad of Syria stated in an interview with the Madrid newspaper EL PAIS, "that the idea of the Geneva conference remains in force."

Progressive Arab states and the PLO are continuing to coordinate and increase their efforts directed toward the practical fulfillment of the decisions of the conference held in Tripoli 2-5 December 1977, which decisively rejected any separate deals between the Arab side and Israel.

Other Arab countries also well understand whose hand this course plays into. For example, as a result of the recent meeting between President H. Boumediene of Algeria and King Husayn of Jordan, they stated that a direct result of President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem was to split the ranks of the Arab countries, to Israel's advantage.

All this says that the Arab countries are striving for truly lasting peace in the Near East and are not seeking a shaky truce.

The Soviet Union was and remains a consistent supporter of a comprehensive settlement in this region of the world with the participation of all interested parties, including of course the PLO. This is our country's principled position.

"Is it not clear," L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted in his report to the 25th CPSU Congress, "how serious is the responsibility which those pursuing egotistical aims and transforming the Near East settlement into the subject of a political game, those using separate, private understandings to delay true solutions and at the same time questioning them in general, are taking upon themselves." This warning is as topical today as ever before.

CIA REPORT ON ISRAELI POSSESSION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS NOTED

LD011413Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Jan 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent Ye. Rusakov report: "Israel's Nuclear Ambitions"]

[Text] New York, 30 January--According to a declassified [rassekrechennyy] CIA report, Israel possesses nuclear weapons. This conclusion was reached as early as 1974.

"We believe that Israel is already producing nuclear weapons," a memorandum prepared by the CIA in September 1974 said, "and this conclusion is based on Israel's acquisition of large quantities of uranium, including acquisition by clandestine means, on Israel's suspicious research in uranium enrichment and on its high level of expenditure on a missile system capable of carrying nuclear warheads."

The report also confirmed that as early as the beginning of 1974 the CIA reached the firm conviction that Israel was responsible for a uranium theft in the city of Apollo (Pennsylvania). In April of this year [as published] it also became known that 200 tons of uranium which mysteriously disappeared from a ship in 1968 had turned up in Israel.

Moscow Arabic Report

LD011208Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 27 Jan 78 LD

[Text] It has been officially announced in the United States that Israel has been producing nuclear weapons since 1974. An official spokesman for the CIA yesterday declared that Israel had begun producing nuclear weapons with the secret assistance of American firms. In the sixties a considerable quantity of uranium was transferred from the United States to Israel. However, reports from Washington say that the United States probably released such a declaration with a view to putting pressure, in particular, on the Arab states.

ISRAELIS CLAIM 'FLEXIBILITY' AFTER TALKS WITH ATHERTON

LD311640Y Moscow TASS in English 1624 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, January 31, TASS--The Israeli defence minister, Ezer Weizman arrived in Cairo today to take part in the meetings of the Israeli-Egyptian military committee. The work of this committee was suspended after the Egyptian President as-Sadat declared publicly that he did not intend to make further unilateral concessions to Israel.

The very fact of the resumption in Cairo of the military committee's meetings testifies to the opposite. From the very beginning of the verbal duel between As-Sadat and Begin, Israel refused to go back on its demands, but, on the contrary, toughened its position of dictate. However, the Egyptian president was so deeply involved in the separatist negotiations with Israel and linked himself so closely with the U.S. policy that a slight pressure on the part of the United States sufficed to make him forget his promise.

Alfred Atherton, deputy assistant secretary of state of the United States, who is now acting as a mediator in the separatist negotiations between Israel and Egypt, arrived in Cairo yesterday.

Prior to that he completed the drafting with Israeli leaders in Jerusalem of the bilateral "peace declaration", which, on the one hand, must, according to the designs of the United States, satisfy the annexationist claims of Tel Aviv, and, on the other, give Cairo at least some chances to justify As-Sadat's notorious "peace initiative."

After the talks with Atherton the Israeli leaders declared that they are displaying "sufficient flexibility" in respect to the Arabs.

This "flexible approach" is understood in a specific way in Tel Aviv: It was announced there yesterday about the creation of three more militarized settlements on the Western Bank of the Jordan River. Noteworthy is the fact that this decision of Tel Aviv followed up the press-conference of the U.S. President, J. Carter, during which he expressed satisfaction that the Israeli Government would allegedly disapprove of the creation of new settlements.

ISRAELI CP OFFICIAL ATTACKS GOVERNMENT POLICY IN KNESSET

LD271532Y Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 27 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Rome, January 27 TASS--The talks between Israeli Prime Minister Begin and Egyptian President as-Sadat have failed because they denied fully the rights of the Arab people of Palestine, T. Tubi, deputy general secretary of the Central Committee and member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel, said in the Knesset (parliament) during a debate on the Israeli-Egyptian talks.

The Communist Party of Israel reiterates, he said, that there will be no peace in the Middle East without recognition of the legitimate right of the Arab people of Palestine to self-determination and their right to establish their own independent state. Begin and As-Sadat can conclude a separate treaty but it will not bring peace and tranquility to the region.

Turning to the policy of M. Begin's government, the deputy general secretary of the Central Committee said that its main aim is continued occupation and annexation of the Arab lands that were seized by Israel. T. Tubi mentioned a statement made by Israeli Foreign Minister Dayan who threatened that "unless Egypt accepts Israel's proposals there will be new wars, new victims and new refugees in the Middle East."

This shows, T. Tubi said, that the Israeli Government assesses As-Sadat's trip to Jerusalem as his capitulation and is holding talks with him precisely from these positions while ignoring completely the rights of the Arab peoples.

T. Tubi said that all the responsibility for the absence of peace in the Middle East rests with the Begin government and urged the Knesset and the people of Israel to express no confidence in this government which is leading the country to a new war, and infringes the vital rights and democratic liberties of the working people.

ISRAELI UN DELEGATION REDUCTION SHOWS SCORN FOR UN

TA291636Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1730 GMT 27 Jan 78 TA

[Text] The Israeli Cabinet has decided to reorganize its UN representation. Its machinery will be cut almost in half in the near future.

From circles close to Begin it is reported that this decision was made out of budgetary considerations. This is a ridiculous claim. Expenses for the maintenance of Israeli UN delegation are absolutely tiny in comparison with sums the Cabinet wastes on various objectives, such as, for example, the expenses of the ministries of Weizman and Sharon, so that the considerations were not at all budgetary.

The government of any country is, of course, entitled to reorganize and improve the structure of its diplomatic services. Therefore, it would appear that this issue is irrelevant. However, in actual fact, it uncovers Israel's relations with the United Nations, which cannot be described as satisfactory, particularly recently. As the U.S. paper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR wrote not long ago, Israel has lost political prestige among the decisive majority of the United Nations. How did this happen? The State of Israel itself was founded in accordance with UN resolutions and thanks to the United Nations it gained its independence. That representative and prestigious international organization did much for Israel's founding. It is not the fault of the United Nations, but the fault of ruling circles in Israel, that the mutual relations between Israel and the community of nations degenerated within a short time of the founding of the state. This is because Israeli ruling circles set their feet along the road of crude violations of the UN Charter, the road of wars of aggression in the Middle East.

Many Israeli personalities often complain about the fact that there is an anti-Israeli mood on the East River. This is not the case. The decisive majority of UN members are not against Israel, but against its aggressive policy, a policy of expansion, carried out by the ruling elite. For more than 10 years, since the aggression in June 1967, there has not been one session of the General Assembly which did not honor the resolution demanding that Israel cease acts of aggression against its Arab neighbors, the elimination of all the results of the aggression, the return of conquered Arab territories to their legal owners and that the unquestioned rights of the Arab Palestinian nation be guaranteed. More than 10 papers which included similar demands were entertained in the Security Council, starting with Resolution 242. The result: The ruling circles in Israel continue as in the past to ignore all these just demands. Therefore, it should not be any surprise that Israel's international isolation is increasing yearly, whereas implementing the resolutions would have already, long ago, led to the desired settlement of the Middle East dispute.

Political commentators, as the New York TIMES writes, regard the reduction of the permanent Israeli UN delegation as proof of the fact that the Begin Cabinet scorns the United Nations as a foreign affairs forum. This is a part of Begin's and his people's policy. As for the United Nations, it has been and will continue to be the representative and most honored international institution. And the same line [qav] intended to moderate relations with the United Nations, does not fit in with Israel's interests. [as heard] The rulers of Israel simply fear this international forum. The spoiled relations between them and the decisive majority of UN countries are the result of the vain policy of the ruling circles in Israel. And it is to the benefit of the interests of the people of Israel not to stand against the United Nations, but to be a suitable member of the organization, to advance toward its honorable objectives directed at the defense of peace, at the development of cooperation in peaceful ways between the countries. This would also bring to the people of Israel the desired peace and the possibility of free development.

NEW SETTLEMENTS 'GIVE LIE' TO ISRAELI OCCUPATION POLICY

LD311558Y Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

["Hypocrisy of Invaders"--TASS headline]

[Text] New York, January 31, TASS--Commenting on yesterday's press conference of President Carter, American correspondents single out his words to the effect that Israel did not sanction the establishment of new civilian settlements on the Western Bank of the River Jordan. The newspapers add that in making this statement the President based himself on assurances made by Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Begin. On the same day the Israeli television announced the Israeli Government's intention to establish three new settlements on the Western Bank of the Jordan. Previously, the Israeli press published a statement by a spokesman of the Finance Ministry that 11 Israeli settlements are now under construction. It was also reported that the Israeli Government considered allocating 1.5 billion Israeli pounds for establishing twelve new settlements around Rafah, in the Sinai. At present there are 10 militarised Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab lands.

Such are the facts. They give the lie to the hypocritical assurances of the Israeli invaders and show that Israel continues its policy of annexation of the occupied lands.

Amman, January 31 TASS--The Israeli television report that the Israeli Government has approved establishment of three new militarised settlements in the area of Nabulus was received here as a show of the militancy of Israeli ruling circles before the opening of Egyptian-Israeli talks.

WEST BANK DEMONSTRATION BROKEN UP BY ISRAELI AUTHORITIES

LD281356Y Moscow TASS in English 1213 GMT 28 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, January 28, TASS--A major demonstration of protest against Israel's expansionist policy in the occupied Arab territories was held in the town of Nabulus on the West Bank of the Jordan River. Tens of thousands of inhabitants went out into the streets of the town, built barricades and burnt car tyres protesting against the [word indistinct] of the Israeli authorities to establish several militarized settlements on the outskirts of the town and in other areas of the occupied lands.

The Israeli police and security forces supported by armoured personnel carriers tried to disperse the demonstration. The troops used firearms and teargas. Several demonstrators were heavily injured, many arrests were made. A curfew has been clamped down on the town, mass searches and round-ups are held.

WORLD PUBLIC OPINION FORCES ISRAEL TO RELEASE JOURNALIST

LD311022Y Moscow TASS in English 1010 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Rome, January 31, TASS--Under the pressure of the world public the Israeli authorities have been compelled to release on bail journalist Hans Lebrecht, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel, secretary of the Association of Fighters of the Anti-Hitler Front and Victims of Nazism. An absurd charge of "encroachment upon state security" was levelled against Hans Lebrecht and also against Panayotis Paschalis, a correspondent of KHARAVYI, the newspaper of the Cyprus communists. The only "proof" of the journalists' guilt are pictures taken by them in streets of Israeli towns.

Having released Hans Lebrecht on bail, the court nevertheless refused to give him a non-guilty verdict, despite the judge's statement on "the weakness of evidence". P. Paschalis is still languishing in prison, he went on a hunger strike in protest against the arbitrary rule of the police. All this shows that the authorities have not abandoned their intention to intimidate those who come out against the aggressive policy of the Israeli Government.

After his release Hans Lebrecht has made a statement for the press. He turned down the groundless accusations levelled against him and P. Paschalis. He emphasized that the arbitrary rule of the authorities was a provocation against the Communist Party of Israel, against all peace forces. I have always been serving the interests of the Israeli working class, the interests of peace, Hans Lebrecht said. A just peace will come to the Middle East only if the rights of all peoples of that region, including the Arab People of Palestine, are recognized and observed.

PDRY PRIME MINISTER, DELEGATION ARRIVE IN USSR FOR TALKS

LD312222Y Moscow TASS in English 2137 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 1, TASS--'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the United Political Organization--National Front, prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen arrived in Moscow today on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government. He leads a government delegation.

PRAVDA writes in this connection that the leadership of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen consistently pursues a policy of promoting in every possible way the friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries. The Democratic Yemen comes out resolutely in support of the national-liberation struggle of the peoples against imperialism, for peace and social progress.

The Soviet people, writes the paper, express confidence that the visit of Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and the forthcoming talks with the Soviet leaders would serve to further develop the friendship and fruitful cooperation between the two countries and peoples.

SYRIA REFUSES TO ATTEND ARAB LEAGUE SESSION IN CAIRO

LD291514Y Moscow TASS in English 1350 GMT 29 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, January 29, TASS--Syria will not participate in a session of the Council of the League of Arab States (LAS), the opening of which in the Egyptian capital is scheduled for March 27. This is stated in a Syrian Government note sent to the LAS General Secretariat. Syria's refusal to participate in the LAS Council session is based on the decisions of the Tripoli conference of the heads of states and members of the leadership of a number of Arab countries and the Palestinian resistance movement. The conference had announced a boycott of all activities which take place in the A.R.E. territory and demanded a transfer of the LAS headquarters from Cairo to another Arab capital.

USSR RATIFIES TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROTOCOL WITH SYRIA

LD262144Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2030 GMT 26 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has ratified a protocol between the Government of the USSR and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic on economic and technical cooperation which was signed in Damascus in June 1976.

PEOPLE OF CYPRUS 'EXPRESS CONFIDENCE' IN KIPRIANOU

LD271936Y Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 27 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 27 TASS--TASS commentator Sergey Dmitriyev writes:

The world public regards declaring Spiros Kipriancu, the only candidate nominated by the parliamentary parties, president of Cyprus as an expression of the unanimity of the Cyprus people. This success for the alliance of the patriotic and democratic forces indicates that the Cypriots fully support the policy of the late President Makarios now pursued by his successor, Kipriancu.

By expressing confidence in Spiros Kipriancu, the people of Cyprus thereby gave him a mandate for another five years to work for such a solution to the Cyprus problem which would meet the genuine interests of the Cypriots and correspond with the well known U.N. resolutions on Cyprus. And it means a full withdrawal of all the foreign troops from the island and ensuring the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and the policy of non-alignment of the Republic of Cyprus. By advocating an independent foreign policy the Cypriots reject the attempts to solve the Cyprus problems in the interests of NATO because the purpose of such a solution is to partition the island to turn it into a military base of the North Atlantic bloc in the eastern Mediterranean.

Spiros Kipriancu is known as a staunch and consistent political leader who carries on the cause started by Archbishop Makarios. He has been working invariably to hamper the attempts by both the external and internal reactionaries to impose a solution to the Cyprus problem alien to the Cypriots. And he has been underlining the need to abolish underground organizations and purge the state machinery.

On more than one occasion Spiros Kipriancu has noted the timeliness and importance of the Soviet Union's proposal to convene a representative international conference on Cyprus within the U.N. framework. Now that Spiros Kipriancu has been declared president of the Republic of Cyprus it will enable him to continue to press for a just solution to the Cyprus problem.

TURKISH HISTORIAN OPPOSES FOREIGN MILITARY PRESENCE

LD010706Y Moscow TASS in English 0725 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Ankara, February 1, TASS--Turkish historian, Professor T. Ataev, came out with the demand to put an end to foreign military presence in Turkey. In an interview to the newspaper YENI ULUS, he stated that liquidation of foreign military bases in the Turkish territory would mean revival of the foreign policy principles that were laid down by the founder of the Turkish state, Kamal Ataturk, and would make it possible to improve considerably Turkey's relations with neighboring countries, among them the Soviet Union.

Touching upon the political course of the United States, Professor T. Ataev stressed that Washington's attempts to influence the home and foreign policy of other states mean "brazen interference and contradict the Helsinki spirit".

ETHIOPIAN LEADER CONDEMNS 'AGGRESSIVE PLANS' OF IMPERIALISM

LD311310Y Moscow TASS in English 1251 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, January 31, TASS--The people of Ethiopia is fully resolved to uphold the gains of its revolution and the territorial integrity of the state. The immediate withdrawal of Somali troops from Ethiopian territory is the only and final solution of the military conflict in the Horn of Africa and a guarantee of peace in the area, stated the chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia, Mengistu Haile Mariam.

Addressing the nation he noted that Ethiopia will continue its just and lawful defensive struggle to clear the territory of the county and drive away all troops of the Somali aggressors until Somalia unconditionally withdraws its troops from Ethiopian territory. With the support of aviation, tanks and heavy artillery, Somali troops, he said, intruded 700 kilometres deep into Ethiopian territory in the east and 300 kilometres in the southern areas of Ethiopia.

The chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council noted that with the full support of the West the Somali leaders have launched a campaign of lies and slander against revolutionary Ethiopia. Its purpose is to delude world public opinion, increase Western aid to the Somali aggressors and internationalise the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa. At present, he said, there exists clear evidence that from now on the unwarranted aggressive war in Ethiopian territory will be organised not only by Somalia but also to a still greater extent by other forces.

In this connection he stressed that the recent meeting in Washington of representatives of the United States, Britain, France, Italy and the FRG was intended to coordinate their efforts in supporting the Somali aggression and that the governments of these countries bear responsibility for the consequences of their actions.

The head of the Provisional Military Administrative Council said that according to plans made by the USA and its NATO allies, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Kuwait and a number of other countries are to help Somalia financially with buying arms for widening aggression. Egypt is to supply Somalia with arms. U.S. military bases in Saudi Arabia and West Germany are to be used for arms shipments to Somalia. Arms, Mariam said, are also to be shipped from the USA proper and West Europe.

Imperialism and reaction do not desist from their attempts to interfere with peaceful construction in Ethiopia. Reactionary regimes are rendering extensive financial and military help to the separatists in Eritrea, the northern province of Ethiopia, and send their military specialists there. All this is being done with a view to creating a vassal regime in Eritrea and establishing their control over the Red Sea basin.

The aggressive plans, drawn up by interrational imperialism and reaction, the speaker went on, are spearheaded not only against revolutionary Ethiopia but are also aimed at undermining the sovereignty of independent Africa states and the national liberation movement in Africa. Ethiopia's policy is one of peace and maintaining friendly relations with all states. We have no territorial claims to any country.

"The Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community," Mengistu Haile Mariam went on, "not only refused to encourage the expansionist aspirations of Somalia's leaders but adopted a principled stand on this question: They made clear their opposition to such an adventurist policy."

The chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council recalled that shortly after the revolution the Ethiopian Government came up with a proposal for establishing a confederation of the two states in the interests of peace and the progress of the peoples of Ethiopia and Somalia. But the Somalian leaders, being instigated by Western imperialist circles, chose the road of expansion and aggression.

On behalf of the government and people of Ethiopia, the chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council expressed gratitude to the socialist states and other progressive forces for their selfless and all-round help to the efforts of the Ethiopian people to achieve the aims of the program of national-democratic revolution--those of building a society based on equality, peace and social justice--and to safeguard the gains of the people's revolution and the territorial integrity of the country.

NO SOCIALIST COMBAT UNITS IN ETHIOPIA, ENVOY SAYS

LD311150Y Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 30 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The Ethiopian ambassador to the USSR, Col Tsegaye Meshesha, has given a news conference to Soviet and foreign journalists. This is what the ambassador had to say:

[The Tsegaye Meshesha in English--recorded] The Ethiopian revolution will be 4 years old in about 1 month from now. [passage indistinct]

Recognition of the right of equality of all of our nationalities has been put into our program. Ethiopia is not the home of only one nationality. We have several nationalities. Within a united Ethiopia, each nationality has the right to live in equality, to share in the political life and economic life of the country.

[word indistinct] (?organization can consider the) political education is going on in Addis Ababa and in the country. Let me mention this is a significant achievement, but there are forces which try to stop this democratic process, and we are extremely sorry for that. However, we are determined to fight on.

In this regard we are naturally thankful to those who stand on our side to help the revolutionary process in Ethiopia. (?What we mean is really) to improve the standard of our people and to make Ethiopia our own, and we have a right to do so.

Invasion by the Somalia regime is the greatest problem to our revolution and to our national unity. We did not expect Somalia to invade us at a time when our country had become the country of the majority, when we were pushing for progress, to live in peace and harmony with our neighbors. And we have never claimed anybody's land. For any trouble that there is in the Horn of Africa Siad Barre, president of Somalia, and the ruling clique, (?they are) responsible. As seen from his latest activities (?at this date) he is openly inviting the colonial powers that were responsible, are responsible even now, for the problems in Africa.

We would like to resolve all of our differences within the framework of the Organization of African Unity. We have taken the initiative to bring the matter concerning the dispute between the two countries, Somalia and Ethiopia, to the OAU, but the Somalia leader in August 1977 walked out (?on) the OAU; now they are going around and appeal to the same colonial powers that are responsible for the present situation in the Horn of Africa.

Second problem is the (?secessionist) movement in Eritrea, backed by reactionary Arab forces and international imperialism.

Third problem is the gross interference by members of the NATO powers in the affairs of Ethiopia. We have a right, the right for self-defense. Somalia's soldiers now at this very moment are on Ethiopian (?soil) and in the course of this invasion much, much atrocities, atrocities have been committed against innocent Ethiopian civilians--women, children, old men.

What we do is just to improve the lot of the citizens, (?that needs) [words indistinct] and we want peace and tranquility, because without peace we cannot construct our economy. This we understand. My chairman, Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu, has stated clearly that we are not (?hitting) any one country. We are [word indistinct] against a system of exploitation of man by man. [end recording]

[Announcer] When a journalist from the West asked the ambassador whether military personnel from the Soviet Union and Cuba were fighting on the side of Ethiopia, the ambassador had this to say:

[Begin recording] First of all, at the outset I would like to say, to assure you, that there are no fighting military personnel from socialist countries or any other country in Ethiopia. We can do our own fighting ourselves. Secondly, Ethiopia is a sovereign state and as such she can exercise her right to chose her friends. For this reason we have technical personnel, advisers from socialist countries in Ethiopia. The socialist countries deserve our deep gratitude, because they sacrificed anything else for the sake of principle, to stand by our side and support us--in our just cause. So I repeat: there are no combat units in Ethiopia from any socialist country or any other country. [end recording]

ADDIS ABABA: CAPTURED WEAPONS PROVE NATO INVOLVEMENT

LD011034Y Moscow TASS in English 1012 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 1, TASS--The NATO countries and the reactionary Arab regimes are giving an extensive support to the expansionist circles of Mogadiscio and are supplying the Somali Army with modern arms to expand the war of aggression against Ethiopia.

This is irrefutably proved by the testimony of prisoners of war and equipment captured in the course of fighting in the eastern front, says a statement of the national revolutionary operative command of Ethiopia.

During the recent combat actions in the area of the towns of Harar and Jijiga, the command reports, Ethiopia's Armed Forces captured a great number of American rifles, part of which came to Somalia from Pakistan, Italian-made tanks, NATO's mortars, anti-tank guns, ammunition, machine guns, and communication means.

SOMALI LEADERS SEEN AS 'COG IN NATO WAR MACHINE'

LD311708Y Moscow in English to Africa 1500 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] President Barre of Somalia has completed his tour of a number of Middle East countries. As one Somali minister after another makes a trip abroad, the Somali ambassadors in the West have become busy. Here is a comment by our observer, Georgiy Tanov:

The task of the current campaign has been defined rather clearly. Somalia's envoys are asking for arms and [word indistinct]. To justify this far-from-peaceful request, they concoct all kinds of stories about a threat to Somalia and other African countries by Ethiopia, the Soviet Union and Cuba. All this is happening at a time when Somali troops occupy a considerable part of the territory of sovereign Ethiopia.

Last November, when the Somali leadership unilaterally annulled the treaty with the Soviet Union and turned down the constructive steps made by this country to have the problems of the Horn of Africa solved peacefully, Western observers predicted the very course of events the world is now witnessing. NATO's huge political and war machine has been set into motion, and as was only to be expected Somali leaders are only a cog in that machine. The main levers are in the hands of the leading NATO powers.

An official reference book recently published in Somalia says that the common policy of any nation is nothing else but a reflection of whatever is going on inside that particular country. This is certainly true of Somalia. Instead of developing and strengthening the country's social and economic gains, its leaders chose to whip up chauvinistic, great-power ambitions. International reaction immediately seized on that and the Somali leaders' reckless nationalism and chauvinism developed into an act of aggression which greatly heightened the tension in the Horn of Africa.

CORRECTION TO ITEM ON U.S. PROMISE OF ARMS TO SOMALIA

The following correction to the item entitled "U.S. Arms Shipments to Somalia Do 'Great Disservice,'" published in the 26 January Sub-Saharan Africa section of the USSR DAILY REPORT, H 1, should be made:

Fourth paragraph, line four should read. . . most important point is that promises of these deliveries were made. . .

RHODESIAN AUTHORITIES IMPOSE 'SEVERE CENSORSHIP'

LD281304Y Moscow TASS in English 1135 GMT 28 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Maputo, January 28, TASS--The Smith regime, making desperate efforts to keep in power by means of repressions and terror, is trying to conceal from world public the real state of things in the country. With this aim in view the racialists have imposed new (?restrictions) on the activity of local and foreign correspondents. According to the new regulations issued in Salisbury on Friday, severe censorship will from now on be applied to practically all press reports.

The information minister is given wide powers to control not only the contents of the dispatches transmitted abroad or published in the local press but also their form. Severe censorship is now extended in particular to reports on the flight of white settlers from Rhodesia, on the talks on the so-called "internal settlement" on international economic sanctions against the regime.

The editors of local newspapers have been sent an edict banning them from quoting the leaders of the Patriotic Zimbabwe Front, who head the armed struggle against the unlawful Smith clique. The persons [words indistinct] regulations will be subjected to severe punishment: violators can be jailed for a year or ordered to pay a big fine. The strict rules of censorship are also extending to foreign correspondents.

ZIMBABWE OFFICIALS REJECT PROPOSALS AT MALTA TALKS

LD311916Y Moscow TASS in English 1859 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] London, January 31 TASS--Negotiations are continuing in Malta on the settlement of the situation in South Rhodesia between the foreign secretary of Britain, David Owen, and the U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations, Andrew Young, on the one hand, and leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, on the other.

Realizing that any solution of the Rhodesian problem without the Patriotic Front would mean the continuation of the liberation struggle, the Western delegations are striving to convince the front's leaders to stop the hostilities. However, Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe categorically reject the persistent proposals of the West to cease fire and transfer all the power in the country for the transitional period to the British commissioner-resident, Carver, who is well known to independent Africa. While discharging the functions of commander-in-chief of the British Forces in Kenya he brutally put down the Mau-Mau uprising in that country.

Unacceptable to the Patriotic Front also were the other provisions of the Anglo-American formula of the "settlement", which are, in fact, intended to drag out the transfer of power to the true representatives of the Zimbabwe people and to perpetuate the military-punitive apparatus of the unlawful Smith clique.

Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe have advanced joint proposals, providing for the creation of a mechanism for the granting of real independence to the African majority in the country and for the complete liquidation of the racialist Smith regime and its military and political apparatus. As noted in the statement of the Patriotic Front leaders, it will become clear shortly how seriously the Western powers are prepared to carry out their assurances concerning the granting of independence to Zimbabwe.

WEST SAID TO BACK PLANS FOR NAMIBIAN ELECTIONS

LD301916Y Moscow in English to Africa 1500 GMT 30 Jan 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] According to information agencies the so-called "Turnhalle democratic union," headed by Dirk Mudge, a white, has launched an election campaign for an immediate constituent assembly. Here are more details from our observer:

The racists are obviously in a hurry. They are rushing to give legal form to the plans which actually deprive the Namibians of independence. In disregard of the United Nations decisions the Pretorian rulers plan to hold elections, racist-style, in the presence of South African troops. With the help of terror they are trying to scare the Namibians into voting for South Africa's puppets. There is every indication that the South African authorities intend to carry out an internal settlement version of the kind Ian Smith is now preparing for neighboring Rhodesia. In other words they want to give power to so-called moderate figures who would enable Pretoria to retain her positions and foreign businesses to continue their activities.

The constitution the racists are trying to impose on Namibia provides for dividing the country into 12 parts operating on a tribal basis. Each tribe will receive veto rights and the state will in fact be turned into a tribal confederation. Pretoria is also taking measures to prevent the future state from maintaining an efficient army. It is also to be divided into regional armed forces, actually units of the tribes. Mercenaries from Chile are expected to play a major role in this plan. They are already fighting side by side with South African troops against SWAPO patriots. The racists now want Chilean mercenaries to form armed units from among local residents, ready to take orders from the Pretoria regime.

The Western countries actually approve of South Africa's moves in Namibia. In a statement made after a recent trip to Western Europe and to the United States, of of Pretoria's puppets, Chief of the Herrero tribe Clemens Kapuuo, declared that the West will recognize what he calls an independent Namibian state. Yet this is not the kind of independence the people of Namibia are seeking to attain. The Namibians, as SWAPO President Sam Nujoma has said, are determined to fight on for complete liberation and genuine independence.

PAPER SAYS MERCENARIES FOR ANGOLA GROUPINGS IN UK

LD302254Y Moscow TASS in English 2116 GMT 30 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Nairobi, January 30 TASS--Reports on the knocking together in Britain of new bands of mercenaries that are ready to make a stab in the back of the Angolan people aroused a wrathful indignation of the African public. The Kenyan newspaper DAILY NATION emphasises that representatives of this dirty business are bringing [word indistinct] and misfortunes to African peoples. The newspaper points out that for the sake of profit they are prepared to resort to the vilest crimes, as was already the case more than once in the African Continent.

BREZHNEV, USTINOV RECEIVE RAUL CASTRO, CORDIAL TALKS FOLLOW

LD011150Y Moscow TASS in English 1140 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 1, TASS--Leonid Brezhnev, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, today received Raul Castro, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, the first deputy chairman of the State Council and Council of Ministers, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba.

Taking part in the conversation was Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR defence minister.

An exchange of opinions of further strengthening and development of fraternal Soviet-Cuban relations took place during the conversation. Some questions of the international affairs of interest to both countries in contemporary conditions were also discussed. The conversation passed in the atmosphere of friendship, cordiality and complete mutual understanding.

CASTRO THANKS BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN FOR CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

LD011130Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] A cable has been received by Comrades Brezhnev and Kosygin from Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee, and chairman of the Cuban Council of State and Council of Ministers. On behalf of the people, the party and the government, it expresses gratitude for the fraternal message on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the triumph of the Cuban revolution.

GENERAL STRIKE LINKS WORKERS, BOURGEOISIE AGAINST SOMOZA

LD3117J4Y Moscow TASS in English 1652 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 31 TASS--TASS commentator Valeriy Laskarev writes:

A general strike is continuing for the second week in Nicaragua. It is the biggest in the history of the country. The strike is characterized by the fact that workers and peasants, businessmen and merchants, banned political parties and trade unions, the oppositional Conservative Party and the church, intellectuals and students are coming out together against the ruling reactionary dictatorial regime of General Somoza. Everybody, except the oligarchy and the armed mainstay of the dictator, the so-called National Guard.

The strike was called by the Democratic Union of Liberation, the very name of which reveals the purposes of the new movement. The union includes seven political parties, including the communists, and two major trade union centres. The strikers demand the immediate resignation of Somoza. Only the dictator's removal, it is pointed out in the appeal of the union, can open the way to the restoration of democratic forms of government in the country.

By means of terror and repressions the Somoza family has been ruling the country with the backing of the United States for 42 years now. The reactionary dictatorship of Nicaragua was declared by the United States the "bastion against communism" in Central America.

However, the dictatorial regime of Nicaragua is used not only to suppress the liberation movements, but also as a loyal watchdog of the interests of foreign monopolies, mainly North American, in this region of the world. It goes without saying that the Somoza family is serving the monopolies not for nothing. Together with them, it is robbing the Nicaraguan people for four decades now. The clan's capital today amounts to over 1,200 million dollars.

It is precisely this deeply anti-national, anti-popular nature of the present regime, evoking for a long time now the indignation of Nicaraguans, that triggered off the present explosion.

And how could it be otherwise? The country, laid open for the pillage by foreign capital, remains one of the poorest and most backward states in the world. The living standards of its people are exceedingly low. Workers receive miserable wages. Less than three percent of the arable land belongs to the peasants. Enterprises belonging to the petty and medium national bourgeoisie are in a state of deterioration.

The general strike in Nicaragua shows that an end has come to the patience not only of the working people, but also of the local bourgeoisie. As stressed in the appeal of the Democratic Union of Liberation, "Nicaragua now resembles a volcano which has begun to erupt." Representatives of even the moderately oppositional Conservative Party speak with hatred about the present regime. "The days of the dictatorship are numbered, and if we had arms, we would fight against it in the streets", said the party leader Fernando Aguero Rocha.

The dictatorial regime remains in power due to brute force. In reply to the people's demand for his resignation, Somoza cynically replies that he will not step down from the helm of power by his own good will, and nobody can force him to do so. He has clamped down a state of emergency and censorship on the country. He is moving tanks and punitive detachments against the people and, of course, he is relying on the backing of his patrons.

All the progressive forces of Latin America, as well as of other continents, side with the fighting patriots of Nicaragua. The peoples of neighbouring Costa Rica, Panama, Venezuela, Mexico, and other countries of the region have expressed solidarity these days with the participants of the general strike in Nicaragua.

POLITICAL, ECONOMIC ISOLATION KEY TO CHILEAN JUNTA COLLAPSE

LD311315Y Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 31, TASS--TASS observer Yevgeniy Babenko writes:

The Pinochet dictatorial regime is finding itself in growing isolation both in Chile and in the international arena. An irrefutable evidence of this is numerous documents and testimony by witnesses presented at the fifth session of the International Commission for Investigation into the Crimes of the Military Junta in Chile, which was held in Algiers.

Crying violations of the law and repressions directed by the military authorities against their own people are a daily occurance in Chile. The absence of any basic democratic freedoms is aggravated by the disastrous economic position of the Chilean working people: enormous inflation, mass unemployment and poverty.

Following the growth of the number of the patriots jailed by the junta, increasingly larger numbers of Chileans are immediately sacked from offices and factories and left without any means of subsistence for any "freedom loving" word. [as received]

Pinochet and his clique believed until recently that they can if not suppress, then at least weaken the internal movement of resistance to the junta through political and economic terror. But they have clearly miscalculated. The ranks of opponents of the military dictatorship are steadily growing in spite of brutal repressions, secret arrests, exile of political prisoners, dismissals and other forms of victimisation of different-minded people. This fact was noted by all participants in the meetings in the Algerian capital.

It is also noteworthy that the political forces of Chile, which in the past were in opposition to the bloc of the Popular Unity parties and contributed to the fall of the Salvador Allende government, are now siding with fighters against the Pinochet dictatorship. Thus, the session of the International Commission for Investigation into the Crimes of the Military Junta in Algiers was attended by noted figures of the Chilean Christian-Democratic Party. Moreover, they declared the necessity of achieving unity in struggle against the fascist junta.

As observers, who followed the session of the international commission stress, the differences between political parties in Chile are gradually receding to the background in that country. The latest statements by the Christian Democrats, as the French newspaper L'HUMANITE believes, are a tangible blow to Pinochet, who always claimed that he was a victim of an alleged "international communist conspiracy."

What the junta chief describes as a conspiracy now is in fact a vigorous, massive movement of solidarity with the struggle of the Chilean democrats with the participation of wide sections of population in various countries of all continents. At present the world public is even more loudly raising its voice demanding that the Western powers end all aid to the Chilean generals, including the granting of loans to the junta, the supplies of arms and other military equipment to it.

The political and economic isolation of the Chilean dictatorship in the international arena must be strengthened and become all-embracing. It is one of the most effective manifestations of world-wide solidarity with the courageous Chilean people and its just struggle for the restoration of democracy and freedom.

PONOMAREV ON INTERNATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF NEW CONSTITUTION

LD311804Y Moscow TASS in English 1754 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 31, TASS--"The new fundamental law of the USSR shows convincingly that the Soviet state is a state of international friendship and peace", Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, writes in the February issue of the magazine "WORLD MARXIST REVIEW".

In his article on the international significance of the new Soviet Constitution, he writes that the "constitution ranks the strengthening of peace and development of international cooperation among the basic tasks of the socialist state of all the people". He stresses that the inseparability of socialism and peace is one of the essential characteristic features of the socialist state.

"No matter how hard the bourgeois propaganda-mongers try to harp on the 'Soviet menace', they are unable to refute the unquestionable historical facts, the article says. These facts show that the bloodiest war in mankind's history, the Second World War, was unleashed precisely by imperialism. And, on the other hand, precisely socialism, the Soviet Union, made the decisive contribution to the defeat of fascism, to the safeguarding of peace, by which all the peoples of the world could have benefitted for more than 30 years now, if this peace had not been disturbed again by the military ventures of imperialism, such as its aggressive intervention in Vietnam, in the Middle East and in Africa".

"The fundamental law of the Soviet state, Boris Ponomarev continues, lays down the principles of international relations, which are taking shape in the socialist part of the world. They are based on the lofty ideals of proletarian internationalism, which, applicably [as received] to the interstate relations among socialist states, are formulated as principles of socialist internationalism".

"Attempts to present the case as though the principles of socialist internationalism contradict the general norms of international relations are sheer fabrications. On the contrary, they constitute a further deepening of general democratic principles of cooperation among nations; determine the formation of relations of a new type, based on fraternal friendship, on mutually advantageous economic integration, on ideological and political cooperation, that is on a basis, which cannot exist in relations between countries of capitalism and socialism".

The international significance of the new Soviet Constitution is determined also, Boris Ponomarev writes, by the fact that it is the constitution of the world's first state of developed socialism, a society which is solving all-embracing creative tasks, covering both the domestic and foreign policy, economy, the sum total of social and national relations, science and culture, cultivation of high morality. The Soviet Constitution is a constitution for the people, which defends their interests, ensures the constant, direct and ever increasing participation of the working people in the government of the state. The fundamental law of the USSR gives the working people the broadest and real social, political, economic, cultural and civil rights, guarantees them reliably. The new Constitution of the USSR is the constitution of furthering socialist democracy, which opens up broad horizons for its implementation, for its development into public self-government in the process of advancement toward a classless communist society.

DATA ON 1977 NATIONAL ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE PUBLISHED

LD311115Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 78 pp 1-2 LD

[USSR Central Statistical Administration report: "The Country on the March of the 5-Year Plan: On the results of the Fulfillment of the State Plan for the Development of the USSR National Economy in 1977"]

[Text] Implementing the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, the working people of the Soviet Union have marked the 60th anniversary of Great October and the adoption of the new USSR Constitution with further successes in the country's economic and social development. The growth of the dimensions and efficiency of social production was insured in 1977 on the basis of broad socialist competition. The program for improving the people's material and cultural living standard was consistently fulfilled.

The main indicators for the development of the national economy last year are characterized by the following figures:

	1977 as Percentage of 1976
National income utilized for consumption and accumulation	103.5
Industrial output--in all	105.7
of which	
Manufacture of means of production	106
Manufacture of consumer goods	105
Agricultural output	103
Freight turnover for all types of transport	103.7
Commissioning of fixed capital	103
Capital investments--in all	103
of which state investments	104
Number of workers and employees	102.1
Labor productivity:	
In industry	104.1
In agriculture (social agricultural production)	104.3
In construction	103.1
In railroad transport	100.3
National economic profit (in comparable prices)	106
Per capita real incomes	103.5
Wages fund for national economy	104.7
Average wages of workers and employees	102.7
Remuneration of kolkhoz members' labor	104.3
Payments and benefits received by population from social consumption funds	104.7
Retail trade turnover of state and cooperative trade	104.4
Volume of consumer service for population	106
Commissioning of total area of housing accommodation	103
Foreign trade turnover	111

Work continued on the development of science and technology and the introduction of the achievements of scientific and technical progress in all sectors of the national economy. In 1977:

Models of new types of machines, equipment, apparatuses, instruments and automation facilities created	4,000 denominations
Mechanized flow and automatic lines installed at industrial enterprises	12,000 sets
Work areas, shops, production facilities switched to comprehensive mechanization and automation	5,000
Automated systems for accounting, planning and control created	over 300 systems
Of which, automated systems for control of technological processes	190 systems
Inventions and rationalization proposals introduced	4.2 million

By raising social labor productivity in the national economy, the labor of over 3 million people was saved.

In 1977 the national income amounted to R398 billion, and showed an increase over the year of R13.5 billion. About three-fourths of the national income was used for consumption and, considering expenditures on housing and sociocultural construction, approximately four-fifths of the national income was channeled directly into people's welfare.

Industrial output rose R30 billion compared with 1976 and reached R562 billion (in enterprise wholesale prices as of 1 January 1975).

Agricultural production in 1977 amounted to R123.6 billion, which is almost 9 percent higher than the mean annual production in the Ninth 5-Year Plan.

The national economy saw the commissioning of fixed capital worth a total of about R110 billion.

The Soviet Union's foreign trade turnover totaled about R63 billion. And with the countries belonging to CEMA it exceeded the volumes envisaged for 1977 by long-term agreements.

I. Industry

The annual plan for the sale of industrial output and the production of the majority of the most important commodities has been overfulfilled.

Compared with 1976 production grew 5.7 percent against the planned 5.6 percent. Data for the individual sectors of industry are cited below:

	Production Volume in 1977 as Percentage of 1976
Electric power industry	103
Fuel industry	104
Ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy	102
Chemical and petrochemical industry	107
Machine building and metalworking	109

Timber, woodworking and pulp and paper industries	103
Construction materials industry	103
Light industry	104
Food industry	105
Production of cultural and everyday goods and domestic appliances	108

Labor productivity increased 4.1 percent; over three-fourths of the increase in production was obtained through increased labor productivity. The saving from the reduction of the prime cost of industrial production compared with the previous year amounted to approximately R2 billion. Profit rose by more than 7 percent.

Fulfillment of the plan for sale of output and the growth rates of production and labor productivity for individual ministries and union republics are characterized by the following figures:

		1977 as Percentage of 1976	
	Percentage Fulfillment of Annual Plan for Sale of Output	Production Volume	Labor Productivity
All-Union and Union Republic Ministries and Departments:			
Power and electrification	100.9	103	100.7
Petroleum Industry	101	105	104
Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry	100.8	105	104
Gas Industry	103	108	108
Coal Industry	102	102	100.6
Ferrous Metallurgy	98	102	101
Nonferrous Metallurgy	100.2	102	101
Chemical Industry	100.2	107	105
Heavy and Transport Machine Building	100.4	105	105
Power Machine Building	100.6	106	103
Electrical Engineering Industry	100.8	107	105
Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building	100.4	108	106
Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry	100.6	110	107
Instrument Making, Automation Equipment Control Systems	101	111	110
Automotive Industry	102	108	107
Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building	101	106	106
Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production	102	110	107
Construction, Road and Municipal Machine Building	100.8	105	104
Machine Building for Light Food Industry and Household Appliances	100.7	107	106
Timber and Wood Processing Industry	100.9	103	103
Pulp and Paper Industry	101	104	103
Construction Materials Industry	100.2	103	102
Light Industry	100.7	104	103
Food Industry	100.6	103	103

Meat and Dairy Industry	98	108	106
Fish Industry	101	98	97
Procurement	102	104	102
Medical Industry	102	110	108
Main Administration of Microbiological Industry	100.9	111	106
Union Republics (Including Industry of Union Jurisdiction)			
RSFSR	101.1	105.1	104.0
Ukraine	101.3	105.7	103.7
Belorussia	101.6	108.3	105.6
Uzbekistan	102.9	104.9	103.3
Kazakhstan	101.4	104.0	101.9
Georgia	102.4	107.1	105.4
Azerbaijan	102.6	107.8	104.3
Lithuania	101.4	104.3	102.7
Moldavia	101.7	105.7	102.7
Latvia	101.6	104.0	103.0
Kirgizia	101.2	104.0	102.4
Tadzhikistan	101.8	105.4	101.5
Armenia	102.3	107.5	103.5
Turkmenia	101.4	102.0	99.9
Estonia	101.9	103.1	102.6

The technical and economic indicators for the work of production associations and enterprises and the quality of the output they produce improved. Relative expenditure of fuel at power stations declined 0.7 percent compared with 1976. In ferrous metallurgy utilization of the useful volume of blast furnaces improved 0.5 percent. The average daily steel output from one square meter of hearth area in open-hearth furnaces increased. Steel smelting per ton of oxygen converter capacity increased 5 percent. In the cement industry the hourly productivity of rotary kilns and mills showed a 2 percent rise. There was some increase in the productivity of spinning and weaving machinery.

The manufacture of the highest-quality output increased by one-third. By the end of the year 48,200 articles bore the state seal of quality. The series production of over 3,500 denominations of new types of industrial output was started up and begun. Some 1,800 denominations of obsolete machine, equipment, apparatus, instrument and article designs were removed from production.

Production of the most important types of output was as follows:

	Produced in 1977	1977 as Percentage of 1976
Electric power--billion kilowatt-hours	1,150	103
Oil (including gas condensate)--million tons	546	105
Gas--billion cubic meters	346	108
Coal--million tons	722	102
Pig iron--million tons	107	102
Steel--million tons	147	101
Rolled ferrous metals--million tons	118	100
Of which, Finished rolled stock	102	100.7
Steel pipes--million tons	17.0	101
Iron ore--million tons	240	100.3

Mineral fertilizers (in conventional units)--million tons	96.7	105
Chemical plant-protection agents (in conventional units)--thousand tons	487	104
100-percent soda ash--million tons	4.9	100.7
100-percent caustic soda--million tons	2.7	102
Sulfuric acid--million tons	21.1	105
Synthetic resins and plastics--million tons	3.3	108
Chemical fibers and yarns--thousand tons	1,088	107
Motor vehicle tires--millions	57.4	105
Detergents--thousand tons	825	99.6
Turbines--million kilowatts	18.9	96
Turbine generators--million kilowatts	18.1	109
A.C. electric motors--million kilowatts	47.8	101
Metal-cutting machine tools:		
thousands	236	102
million rubles	1,593	109
Of the total number of metal-cutting machine tools, those with numerical program control--thousands	6.3	107
Forging and pressing machines:		
thousands	54.3	104
million rubles	461	108
Instruments, automation facilities and spare parts--billion rubles	4.1	112
Computer facilities and spare parts--billion rubles	2.8	125
Metallurgical equipment--thousand tons	372	101
Coal stoping combines--thousands	1.2	97
Tunneling combines--units	526	102
Petroleum apparatus (excluding air-cooled apparatus)--thousand tons	171	104
Chemical equipment and spare parts--million rubles	667	107
Equipment and spare parts for light industry--million rubles	669	107
Equipment and spare parts for food, meat and dairy, fish industries--million rubles	508	107
Mainline diesel locomotives--million horsepower	3.7	91
Mainline electric locomotives--million horsepower	3.3	104
Mainline freightcars--thousands	71.2	99
Motor vehicles--thousands	2,088	103
of which:		
trucks	734	103
automobiles	1,280	103
Tractors:		
thousands	569	101
million horsepower	45.4	103
Machines for livestock raising and fodder production--billion rubles	1.8	109
Agricultural machinery (excluding machines for livestock raising and fodder production)--billion rubles	2.3	105

Grain-Harvesting combines--thousands	106	104
Cotton-Harvesting machines--thousands	8.7	108
Excavators--thousands	41.5	103
Commercial timber (excluding kolkhoz timber procurements)--million Fest-meters	293	98
Pulp--million tons	7.4	103
Paper--million tons	5.5	101
Cardboard--million tons	3.6	102
Cement--million tons	127	102
Precast ferroconcrete--million cubic meters of articles	121	102
Slate--billion standard sheets	7.3	90
Soft roofing materials and insulation--billion square meters	1.8	97
All types of textiles--billion square meters	10.4	101
Of which:		
Cotton	6.8	100.5
Wool	0.8	101
Linen	0.8	101
Silk	1.6	103
Sewn articles--billion rubles	20.6	104
Knitted underwear and outer garments--million articles	1,511	103
Leather footwear--million pairs	735	102
Meat--total--million tons	14.8	109
Of which, factory processed	9.1	109
Sausage products--million tons	3.0	102
Edible fish produce, including canned fish--billion rubles	4.5	101
Butter--million tons	1.4	111
Wholemilk produce in milk equivalent--million tons	24.3	104
Dried milk and dried cream--thousand tons	354	108
Granulated sugar--million tons	12.0	130
Vegetable oil--million tons	2.9	106
Confectionery--million tons	3.5	104
Natural tea (high quality)--thousand tons	156	108
Canned goods--billion standard cans	15.0	104
Mixed feed--million tons	51	110
Clocks, watches--millions	60.7	105
Chinaware and crockery-million articles	1,067	102
High-quality glass, crystal tablewear--million rubles	329	111
Radio receivers, radio phonographs--millions	8.7	102
Of which, those using semiconductors	5.9	106
Television sets--millions	7.1	100.1
Of which, color receivers	1.1	138
Washing machines--millions	3.6	104
Freezers-millions	5.8	99.6
Motorcycles and motor scooters--thousands	1,089	103
Furniture--billion rubles	4.6	107

There was an increase in the production of nonferrous and rare metals, petrochemical products, refined petroleum products and other types of output.

The surveyed resources of the most important minerals increased.

Despite the positive results of the work of industry as a whole, certain production associations and enterprises did not meet the established targets for sale of output and its manufacture in the set range, or for the growth of labor productivity, for accumulations and for saving physical resources. The required quality of output being produced is not always insured and delivery pledges are violated.

There was underfulfillment of the plan for the production of rolled ferrous metals, mineral fertilizers, freightcars, commercial timber, cement, textiles, freezers, meat and certain other types of output.

A number of newly commissioned projects are slow in reaching the design indicators for the manufacture of output, prime cost and labor productivity.

Certain ministries have underfulfilled the plan targets for the development of science and technology.

II. Agriculture

Under difficult weather conditions in 1977 agricultural workers achieved an increase in the volume of agricultural output, which rose by R3.5 billion compared with 1976.

The production of the main farming products for all categories of farms was as follows (im millions of tons):

	1971-1975 (Annual Average)	1976	1977
Grain	181.6	223.8	195.5
Raw cotton	7.67	8.28	8.76
Sugar beets (factory)	76.0	99.9	93.3
Sunflower seeds	5.97	5.28	5.87
Potatoes	89.8	85.1	83.4
Vegetables	23.0	25.0	23.0

Some 92 million tons of wheat, 11 million tons of corn (grain) and 2.2 million tons of rice were harvested.

Having grown a big crop, the farmers of the Ukrainian SSR successfully fulfilled the socialist pledges for the production of grain. The grain harvest amounted to 48.6 million tons. The republic's beetgrowers sold more than 50 million tons of sugar beets to the state.

A record cotton crop was harvested in the country. The farms of the Uzbek SSR sold 5.7 million tons to the state, those of the Turkmen SSR sold 1.2 million tons and the farms of the Tadzhik SSR sold 0.9 million tons of raw cotton to the state.

Some 37 million hectares have been sown to winter grain crops for harvesting in the current year, and 114 million hectares of fall plowing has been carried out.

The kolkhozes and sovkhozes have begun preparations for the spring sowing. The farms are provided with seed for spring crops and on the majority of these farms the seed has been brought up to the proper condition for sowing. Considerable areas have been irrigated for moisture-retention; repair work on agricultural equipment is proceeding rapidly.

The productive livestock population (million head) stood at:

	Position as of 1 January 1977	1978
All Categories of Farms		
Cattle	110.3	112.5
Of which, cows	42.0	42.6
Hogs	63.1	70.3
Sheep, goats	145.3	146.2
Kolkhozes, Interfarm Enterprises, Sovkhozes and Other State Farms		
Cattle	87.5	89.3
Of which, cows	28.6	29.3
Hogs	51.3	55.6
Sheep, goats	116.5	117.3
Private Subsidiary Plots Held by Population		
Cattle	22.8	23.2
Of which, cows	13.4	13.3
Hogs	11.8	14.7
Sheep, goats	28.8	28.9

The output of livestock-raising produce on all categories of farms is characterized by the following data:

	1971-1975 (Annual Average)	1976	1977
Meat (carcass weight)--million tons	14.0	13.6	14.8
Milk--million tons	87.4	89.7	94.8
Eggs--billions	51.4	56.2	61.0
Wool--thousand tons	442.1	435.5	458.0

In comparison with 1976, the output of livestock-raising produce increased as follows: meat--9 percent, milk--6 percent, eggs--8 percent, wool--5 percent.

State purchases of livestock-raising produce on all categories of farms were as follows:

	1971-1975 (Yearly Average)	1976	1977
Livestock and poultry--million tons:			
Liveweight	15.4	15.1	16.3
Carcass weight equivalent	9.9	9.3	10.3
Milk--million tons	52.1	56.2	60.8
Eggs--billions	27.5	32.9	36.8

The total volume of purchases set for 1977, taking additional targets into account, was fulfilled for milk and eggs. The additional targets for livestock and poultry procurements were underfulfilled.

The average milk yield per cow increased 6 percent. The average weight per head of cattle and hogs sold to the state increased.

The gross income of the kolkhozes amounted to R24.4 billion and increased 7 percent over the year.

Interfarm cooperation in the countryside was further developed. At the beginning of 1978 there were 7,800 interfarm enterprises.

Capital investment in the development of agriculture for the entire range of work amounted to R32.9 billion, of which investment by the state amounted to R21.9 billion and that by kolkhozes R11 billion. Some R6.9 billion was invested in irrigation and land-reclamation construction work.

The plan for the delivery of the most important types of equipment to agriculture was fulfilled. Agriculture received: 364,000 tractors with a total capacity of 28 million horsepower; 265,000 trucks and specialized vehicles; 101,000 grain--harvesting, 11,000 corn-harvesting, 12,000 potato-harvesting, 14,000 beet-harvesting and 57,000 silage-harvesting combines; 9,000 cotton-harvesting machines; 31,000 pickup balers; 27,000 sprinkler machines and assemblies; 56,000 milking assemblies; 94,000 universal loaders and many other machines and mechanisms.

In 1977 agriculture received 77 million tons of mineral fertilizers, or 2 million tons more than in 1976, and 2.8 million tons of chemical feed additives, or 53,000 tons more.

Losses of produce and mineral fertilizers occurred on a number of farms, and tractors and other equipment were allowed to stand idle.

Reforestation work was carried out on an area of 2.3 million hectares, including the sowing and planting of forest on an area of 1.2 million hectares. Forestry layout measures were conducted on an area of 46.8 million hectares.

III. Transport and Communications

The freight turnover of all types of transport constituted 5.6 trillion ton-kilometers and increased 3.7 percent in comparison with the preceding year. Passenger turnover reached 803 billion passenger-kilometers and increased 2.9 percent.

Fulfillment of the annual plan for the types of transport is characterized by the following figures:

	Carried Out in 1977	Percentage Fulfillment of Annual Plan	1977 as Percentage of 1976
Freight Turnover--billions of ton-kilometers:			
Railroad transport	3,330	99	101
General-purpose river transport	231	100.5	104
General-purpose motor vehicle transport	109	99.6	107
Oil-pipeline transport	922	103	116
Freight Shipments--millions of tons:			
Railroad transport	3,705	100	102
General-purpose river transport	520	102	107

General-purpose motor vehicle transport	5,929	99	103
Oil-pipeline transport	559	100.9	105

Maritime transport fulfilled the plan for freight shipments on internal and foreign routes. Compared with 1976 freight shipments by all types of maritime transport and containerized freight shipments increased 3 percent. In sea ports 92.6 percent of the total volume of cargo handling work was done by comprehensively mechanized facilities.

Air transport fulfilled the passenger traffic plan and the plan for the total volume of air transport. The plan of air services for sectors of the national economy was overfulfilled and the volume of these operations increased 10 percent in the year.

At the same time, there were shortcomings in the operation of transport. Shipments of individual types of freight were not fully insured.

Communications enterprises (mail, telegraph, telephone, radio) fulfilled the total output plan: compared with the previous year, the volume of communications output increased 5.9 percent. The plan for extending interurban telephone communication channels and increasing the capacity of urban and rural telephone exchanges was fulfilled. The network of radio and television stations was expanded.

IV. Capital Construction

In the past year 250 new large-scale state industrial enterprises, and a large number of apartment buildings, schools, hospitals, preschool institutions and other cultural and consumer services projects were built. Existing enterprises and shops were modernized and expanded.

The commissioning of the most important production capacities as a result of constructing new enterprises and enlarging and modernizing existing ones is characterized by the following figures:

	Capacities Commissioned in 1977
Power stations--million kilowatts	10
Coal--million tons	17.4
Iron ore--million tons	14.1
Pig iron--million tons	0.6
Steel--million tons	6
Rolled ferrous metals (finished)--million tons	1.5
Mineral fertilizers (in conventional units)--million tons	4
Synthetic resins and plastics--thousand tons	103
Chemical fibers and yarns--thousand tons	87.5
Turbines--thousand kilowatts	510
Mainline freight cars--thousands	2.7
Metal-cutting machine tools--thousands	2.4
Motor vehicles--thousands	43.8
Tractors--thousands	39.3
Grain-harvesting combines--thousands	7.1
Single-bucket excavators--thousands	9.2
Cement--million tons	4.2
China and earthenware products--millions of articles	53
Granulated sugar--thousand quintals of processed beets per day	184
Confectionery--thousand tons	50

Canned fruit and vegetables--million standard cans	360
Meat--thousand tons per shift	0.7
Wholemilk produce--thousand tons of milk per shift	2.2
Main pipelines for oil and petroleum products--thousand kilometers	4
Main gas pipelines and outlets--thousand kilometers	6
New railroad lines--kilometers	1,029
Railroads electrified--kilometers	799
Elevators--million tons	4.5
Granaries and grain and seed stores--million tons	5.5

As a result of technical reequipping and the implementation of other organizational and technical measures the capacities of existing enterprises in 1977 increased by 1.2 million tons for steel production, by 0.5 million tons for rolled ferrous metals, by 4,300 metal-cutting machine tools, by 1,700 tractors and by 0.5 million tons of cement.

In electricity generation the Ust-Ilimsk GES and the Zaporozhye and Uglegorsk thermal electric power plants--the largest in Europe--were commissioned at their full planned capacity of 3.6 million kilowatts; the first power unit with a capacity of 1 million kilowatts was commissioned at the Chernobyl AES.

In the oil-refining and petrochemical industry new capacities were commissioned for refining oil and producing synthetic rubber and raw materials for plastics.

In the coal industry large capacities were commissioned at the "Bogatyr" coalpit in the Kazakh SSR. The capacities of a number of existing mines and pits were increased after enlargement and modernization.

In ferrous metallurgy an oxygen converter complex equipped with large converters was commissioned at the "Azovstal" plant, a wide-flange girder mill was commissioned at the Nizhniy Tagil metallurgical combine and major capacities were commissioned for the extraction and enrichment of iron ore; capacities for pig iron and steel production were increased as a result of modernizing existing units.

In nonferrous metallurgy new capacities were commissioned at existing enterprises for the production of zinc, aluminum, titanium and rolled nonferrous metals.

In the chemical industry large capacities for mineral fertilizer production were commissioned at the Balakovo chemical plant and the Ionava nitrogenous fertilizer plant; capacities were commissioned at enterprises for the production of chemical fibers and yarns, plastics and synthetic resins and other products.

In machine building new capacities were commissioned for the production of blast-furnace, steel smelting and rolling equipment, A.C. electric motors, excavators and a number of other types of machine-building output.

In the wood processing and pulp and paper industry capacities were commissioned for processing timber and producing paper, cardboard and furniture.

In the construction materials industry the Novospasskiy and Navoi cement plants were commissioned. Capacities were commissioned for the production of asbestos-cement pipes, high-grade asbestos, window and plate glass and ceramic tiles.

Capacities were increased in the light, food and meat and dairy industries. New enterprises were constructed for the production of consumer goods, including large textile enterprises at Lutsk, Ust-Kamenogorsk, Tokmak in the Kirgiz SSR, Nikopol and Slonim in the Belorussian SSR, a chrome leather plant at Bogordodsk in Gorkovskaya Oblast, the Chortkov sugar plant in Ternopolskaya Oblast, the Novotashkentskiy canning plant and dairy plants in Kalinin and Kishinev.

The Kuybyshev-Lisichansk oil pipeline and the third stage of the Ukhta-Torzhok gas pipeline--each more than 1,000 km long--and the approximately 600 km-long petroleum products pipeline running from Ufa in a westerly direction were commissioned.

Construction of the Baykal-Amur Main Railroad was conducted successfully. A new railroad line was put into permanent operation on the BAM-Tynda section.

A new electrified railroad line was commissioned between Beloretsk and Karlaman, which will permit a considerable reduction in the time taken to travel from the industrial centers of the Urals and Siberia to regions in the European section.

In agriculture, stockraising premises and mechanized farms and complexes for more than 4 million head of cattle, 2.5 million hogs and 4.2 million sheep were commissioned as a result of modernization and new construction. Capacities of poultry factories were increased by 8.5 million laying hens and those of meat-oriented poultry factories by 55 million birds a year. Silage and haylage installations with a capacity of 11.5 million cubic meters were commissioned, as were mechanized stores for mineral fertilizers, toxic chemicals and lime materials with a simultaneous storage capacity for more than 2 million tons.

Some 860,000 hectares of irrigated land were commissioned, including 300,000 hectares of irrigated hayfields and pasture. Reservoirs were commissioned on the Arpa-Chay River in the Azerbaijan SSR, as were the Dzhezdinskoye and Charskoye reservoirs in the Kazakh SSR; construction of the second stage of the Amu-Bukhara Canal was completed in the Uzbek SSR. Pastureland was irrigated over an area of 7.5 million hectares. In the Non-Chernozem Zone of the RSFSR and other regions of the country 830,000 hectares of waterlogged and marsh-ridden land were drained, including 640,000 hectares with covered drainage.

Capital investments in the national economy from all sources of finance totaled R122 billion and rose 3 percent compared with 1976.

The volume of contract work fulfilled by state construction and installation organizations increased 3 percent over the year; the plan was 96 percent fulfilled.

Interkolkhoz construction organizations increased the volume of contract work 5 percent compared with 1976.

Labor productivity in construction rose 3.1 percent. The entire increase in the volume of construction and installation work was obtained as a result of this.

Approximately one-third of all teams engaged on construction and installation work operated in accordance with the team contracting method.

Work continued last year on further raising the technical standard of construction. Compared with 1976, the volume of fully prefabricated construction rose 8 percent, and the volume of construction of large-panel houses in accordance with standard new-series designs increased 24 percent. The introduction of efficient structures, materials and technological processes was extended.

However, there were substantial shortcomings in capital construction. The timely commissioning of a number of production capacities was not insured, resources were allowed to be overextended and the volume of uncompleted construction increased. Many construction and installation organizations did not fulfill their plans for contract work, higher labor productivity and profits.

V. Raising the People's Material and Cultural Living Standards

The average annual number of workers and employees in the national economy totaled 106.4 million and increased by 2.1 million over the year; the number of kolkhoz members employed in the public sector of kolkhozes totaled 14.7 million.

As in previous years, full employment of the able-bodied population was insured; in individual regions of the country there was a shortage of manpower.

Real incomes per capita rose 3.5 percent.

Targets for growth in the average monthly wages of workers and employees, in the pay of kolkhoz members and in social consumption funds were fulfilled.

The average monthly monetary wage of workers and employees stood at R155 in 1977 against R151 in 1976. Wages with the addition of payments and privileges from social consumption funds increased from R206 to R212.

In 1977 the raising of the minimum wage to R70 a month for workers and employees in all sectors of the national economy was completed everywhere. Rates and salaries were raised for middle-paid categories of workers in nonproductive sectors in regions of the far north and localities equated with them, in the European north and in regions of the Far East and Siberia, and since the end of the year this measure has been implemented in the regions of the Urals, Kazakhstan, Central Asia, the Volga Region and the Volga-Vyatka Region.

Additional pay for nightwork was introduced for foremen of production sections in industrial enterprises and construction organizations and for workers connected with the basic operation of railroads and subways of the Ministry of Railways. Measures were implemented to improve working conditions and pay of workers in the coal and slate industry industry and mine construction. Wages were also increased for certain other categories of workers.

The pay of kolkhoz members increased 4.3 percent.

Payments and privileges received by the population from social consumption funds totaled R99.5 billion and rose by R4.5 billion over the year.

Additional privilages were introduced under the provision of pensions for individual categories of workers in certain sectors of the national economy.

Bonds of internal state loans continued to be liquidated.

Savings deposits population increased by R13.7 billion.

Retail commodity turnover in state and cooperative trade totaled R229.1 billion and increased by R9.7 billion compared with 1976. The annual plan for retail commodity turnover was fulfilled 100.5 percent.

The volume of sales of individual commodities in state and cooperative trade is characterized by the following figures:

	1977 Sales as Percentage of 1976
Bread products	99
Meat and meat products	101
Fish and fish products	98
Butter	105
Vegetable oil	100
Margarine	103
Whole milk produce	103
Cheese	105
Eggs	111
Sugar	100
Confectionery	99
Tea	106
Potatoes	107
Vegetables	107
Fruit and citrus fruits	112
Clothes, underwear and textiles	103
Knitwear	107
Hosiery	104
Leather footwear	104
China, earthenware and glassware	108
Soap and detergents	104
Furniture	107
Freezers	107
Washing machines	104
Electric vacuum cleaners	118
Clocks and watches	106
Cameras	107
Motorcycles and motor scooters	106
Bicycles and motor-assisted bicycles	103
Radios and radio phonographs	105
Television sets	100
Of which, color sets	147
Passenger cars	106

Despite the growth in commodity turnover, the public demand for certain commodities was still not fully satisfied.

The volume of consumer services rendered to the population increased 6 percent, including 8 percent in rural localities. The plan for the volume of consumer services was overfulfilled.

The further upsurge in the country's economy and the growth of retail commodity turnover and services rendered to the population insured the stability of monetary circulation.

Housing with a total area of approximately 110 million square meters, or 2.2 million well-appointed apartments, was constructed from all sources of finance. This made it possible to improve housing conditions for almost 11 million Soviet citizens. General educational schools with almost 1.5 million places, preschool establishments with 580,000 places, hospitals with 65,000 beds, polyclinics for 122,000 visits per shift and many other cultural and domestic projects were commissioned. However, the plan for housing and cultural and domestic construction was underfulfilled by a number of union republics, ministries and departments.

Work was carried out on providing populated points with public services and amenities. During the year gas supplies were connected to approximately 3 million apartments, including 1.3 million apartments in rural localities. Trolleybus services were inaugurated in the following cities: Novokuznetsk (Kemerovskaya Oblast), Ordzhonikidze (Severo-Osetinskaya ASSR), Osh, Slavyansk (Donetskaya Oblast) and Taganros. The first stage of the subway in Tashkent and a new section of subway line in Leningrad were commissioned.

The further development of public education, science and culture continued. Various kinds of instruction embraced more than 93 million people, including 45.4 million being taught in general educational schools, 1.7 million in secondary vocational and technical schools, 4.7 million in technical colleges and other secondary specialized educational institutions and 5 million in VUZes.

In 1977 more than 5 million young men and women received a secondary (general and specialized) education, 1.2 million of them doing so without taking time off from work.

At present there are 8.6 million pupils attending day schools and groups, which is almost 8 percent more than in the preceding year.

About 13 million children were embraced by permanent preschool establishments, and seasonal children's establishments catered to 5 million children, including 2 million preschool children.

The number of scientific workers amounted to almost 1.3 million.

In 1977 1,932,000 specialists entered the national economy, including 752,000 with a higher education and 1.18 million with a secondary specialized education.

Some 1.17 million persons were admitted to VUZes, 613,000 of these to day departments. Some 1,428,000 persons were admitted to secondary specialized educational establishments, 924,000 of them being admitted to day departments.

Over the year vocational and technical educational establishments trained 2.1 million young skilled workers and 2.4 million persons were admitted to these establishments, including about 700,00 persons to secondary vocational and technical colleges.

More than 34 million persons were trained in new trades and improved their qualifications through individual, team and course training held at enterprises, in establishments and organizations, and also on kolkhozes.

The urban and rural population is served by 131,000 mass libraries housing more than 1.6 billion books, which is almost 55 million books and journals more than in 1976.

The number of books and booklets published in 1977 was in excess of 1.8 billion copies.

The number of movie houses was 153,000 and a total of 4.1 billion visits were made to the movies in the year.

The provision of medical services and organized leisure for the population expanded. The number of physicians in every specialist field increased by 29,000 over the year and totaled 893,000.

There was an increase of 70,000 in the number of places at sanatoriums, boarding houses, rest homes and centers, and an increase of 6,000 in the number of places at tourist centers. Some 49 million working people and members of their families obtained treatment and recreation at sanatoriums, resort establishments, rest homes and at tourist centers; 150 million persons went on excursions.

In the course of the year about 22 million children and teenagers relaxed at Young Pioneer and school camps and excursion and tourist centers or went out into the countryside during the summer with children's establishments.

The population of the Soviet Union totaled 260 million on 1 January 1978.

[signed] USSR Council of Ministers Central Statistical Administration.

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

ARTIFICIAL EARTH SATELLITE COSMOS-987 LAUNCHED

LD010741Y Moscow TASS in English 0740 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 1, TASS--On January 31, the Soviet Union launched the artificial earth satellite "Cosmos-987" to continue exploration of outer space.

The initial period of revolution is 89.6 minutes, the maximum distance from the earth's surface is 359 kilometres, the minimum distance from the earth's surface is 183 kilometres, inclination of the orbit is 62.8 degrees.

Equipment on board the sputnik functions normally.

ROMANENKO, GRECHKO CONTINUE REPLENISHING SPACE COMPLEX

LD311016Y Moscow TASS in English 1003 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 31, TASS--A TASS special correspondent reports from the flight control centre: Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko are continuing work in the Soviet piloted orbital complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Progress-1.

Additional air pressurisation of the station from the stocks delivered by the transport space craft is planned for today. During the manned flight, a part of the air was spent during the space walk of the cosmonauts as well as in the course of the operations for waste disposal.

Work is continuing for the unloading of the transport spacecraft Progress-1, which brought to the orbital Salyut-6 station the materials necessary for a long functioning of the piloted space complex.

The crew is replacing the used units of the station's onboard systems. The regenerators delivered to the station have been included into the operation of the life-sustaining system. The cosmonauts have transferred and installed in their assigned places on board the station the equipment and apparatuses designed for technological experiments.

According to the data of telemetric information and reports of the crew, the onboard systems of the orbital complex are functioning normally. The cosmonauts feel well.

BRIEFS

WATER RESOURCES CADASTRE--A state water resources cadastre is to be kept in the USSR. The Far Eastern Scientific Research Hydrometeorological Institute has begun this work. The water resources cadastre will not only take into account but also control water conservation activities. The great flow of hydrological information will soon be processed by an electronic computer in the institute so that it can supply information on the status of water projects, the quality of water and the use of water to planning, construction and economic organizations. By having complete and objective data on the use of water by individual enterprises it will also be possible to control and prevent dangerous pollution of reservoirs. [Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 0935 GMT 30 Jan 78 OW]

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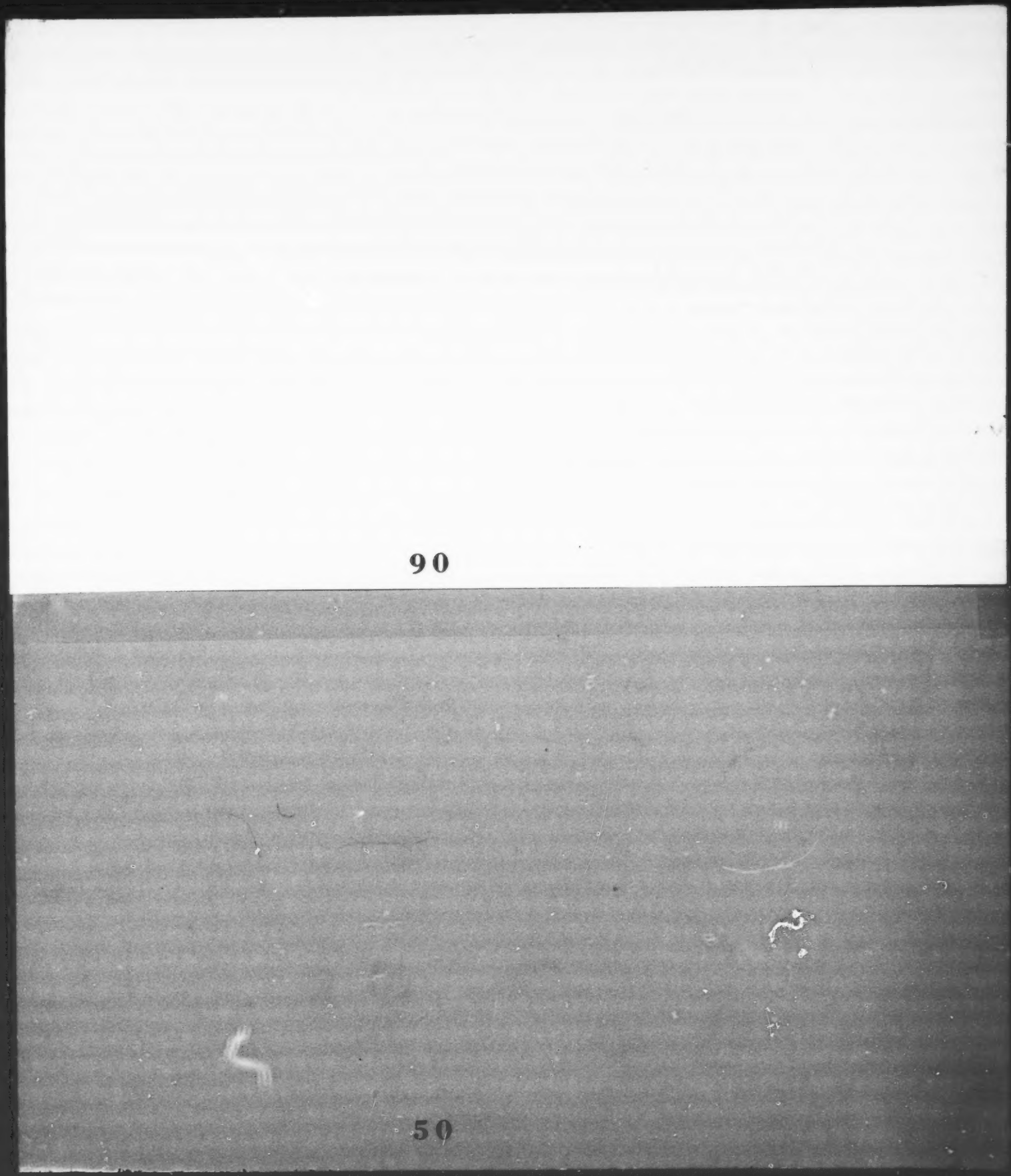
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